

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Downtown Bennington Historic District (Boundary Increase)  
other names/site number n/a

2. Location

street & number North Street, Main Street, Silver Street  
not for publication n/a  
city or town Bennington vicinity n/a  
state Vermont code VT county Bennington code 003  
zip code 05201

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination      request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets      does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant      nationally x statewide x locally. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Suzanne C. Daniels National Register Specialist 4-10-08  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Vermont State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria. (      See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register  
See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

*Elson H. Beall* 5.21.08

other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

*for*

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>24</u>	<u>14</u>	buildings
		sites
<u>1</u>		structures
		objects
<u>25</u>	<u>14</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A



Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

Politics/Government

Transportation

Period of Significance 1835-1957

Significant Dates 1852

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation n/a

Architect/Builder Thomas J. Harvey & Son  
Harding and Seaver  
Turner, Herbert  
Gunson & Emery  
Nevins-Morrissey, Inc.  
Gilson, Calvin  
Montague, Smith  
Dunham, Walter or Dewey

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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#### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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### 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
18	647115	4748978	4	18	647532 4748480
2	18	647328 4748972	5	18	647300 4748450
3	18	647546 4748698	6	18	647120 4748450

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase, Bennington, Bennington Co., VT**

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Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Paula Sagerman, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization n/a date December 3, 2007

street & number 7 Winter Haven Dr. telephone (802) 464-5179

city or town Wilmington state VT zip code 05363

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**Section 7 Page 1**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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**Description**

This National Register nomination reflects a resurvey and boundary increase to the original Downtown Bennington Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. The original nomination included forty-six resources, thirty-seven of which remain standing in the historic district, #1-11, 13-23, 26-28, 30, 34, 37-48 of the original nomination. (The count does not match the listed remaining properties because of the use of a different National Register counting system in 1980). Since the original nomination was completed, one non-historic resource on Main Street was demolished (#12), seven historic resources on North Street were demolished (#24, 25, 31, 32, 33, 35, and 36), and one historic resource on North Street was moved to outside the historic district (#29). Two non-contributing resources from the original nomination are now contributing due to the fact that they are now over fifty years of age (#9 and 36 of amended nomination). The amended area of the historic district has a total of thirty-nine resources, and there is a total of seventy-six resources in the entire historic district – thirty-seven remaining resources in the original historic district plus the thirty-nine resources in the amended area.

The historic district boundary increase includes extensions on Main Street and North Street, and one property on Silver Street. On Main Street west of Route 7, two properties are being added on the south side of the street (#33 and 37). On Main Street east of Route 7, the historic district is being extended several blocks, to just east of Silver Street. On North Street, one property and one bridge are being added to the north end of the existing historic district (#31 and 32). The boundary increase adds residential, commercial, ecclesiastical, fraternal, transportation, and educational resources to the historic district, and reflects, to a greater degree than the original nomination, the rich and diverse architecture and streetscapes of Bennington village. The amended historic district includes a total of seventy-three primary resources. All of the original individual property descriptions have been renumbered and rewritten. (See the individual property titles for the property numbers associated with the original nomination.)

The Downtown Bennington Historic District is a unique, densely-settled historic district composed of diverse streetscapes, and is the cultural, political and commercial center of the Town of Bennington. The focal point of the cross-shaped historic district is Putnam Square, also known as the Four Corners, which is in the heart of the village at the intersection of Vermont Routes 7 and 9. The Walloomsac River flows east-west through the village and crosses the north end of the historic district. The historic district includes sections of Route 7 (South Street and

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North Street), which runs north-south and Route 9 (Main Street on both sides of Route 7), which runs east-west.

The South Street section of the historic district lies between Main Street and Elm Street. Elm Street was chosen as the southern boundary due to the non-historic resources that lie south of this street. The North Street section is between Main Street and the Walloomsac River, with the exception of the historic bridge that carries North Street over the river, and one property north of the river, the former St. Francis de Sales Academy. North of this, the character of the street is changed due to non-historic resources. The Main Street section west of Route 7 includes half the block between Route 7 and Depot Street. This point was chosen as the western boundary of the historic district due to the non-historic resources that lie west of this point. The Main Street section east of Route 7 extends to just east of Silver Street, including two properties east of Silver Street. This point was chosen as the eastern boundary due to the non-historic resources that lie east of this point and because the streetscape also becomes residential in character. The historic district boundary follows the outer perimeter property lines of the parcels that lie adjacent to the streets in the historic district.

The historic district is primarily commercial in character, but the seventy-three primary resources also include a mix of domestic, civic, fraternal, educational and ecclesiastical buildings, a transportation structure, and domestic buildings that have been converted to commercial uses. There is a rich variety of historic architectural styles ranging from the second quarter of the nineteenth-century to the end of the twentieth century, including Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Renaissance Revival, High Victorian Gothic, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Tudor Revival, Bungalow, Art Deco, American International Style, and Post-Modern. There are also good examples of historic storefront commercial and industrial buildings. Fifty-eight of the seventy-three primary resources contribute to the historic district's significance. The historic structures and streetscapes sufficiently depict the historic appearance of the historic district, which retains to a large degree its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Although all the streets in the historic district have a downtown feeling, each street has its own character. South Street has mostly detached buildings that depict a variety of architectural styles, dates, uses, and materials. There are three government buildings, the c. 1846 Greek Revival Town Offices (#4), the 1936 Colonial Revival Bennington County Courthouse (#3), and the 1914 Neo-Classical Revival Post Office (#8), which is now the local police station. There is another

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building on this street that serves the public, the c. 1845 Greek Revival Blacksmith Shop (#2), which is now a Welcome Center. South Street also includes a large industrial structure (#1). Closer to Putnam Square, the principal intersection in the village, the character of the street changes and consists of historic three-story brick Italianate commercial buildings with storefronts (#10, 11, and 12). Three properties on South Street also have larger lots and building setbacks compared to the other properties in the historic district (#2, 3, and 4).

North Street has developed in a way so that much of the west side of the street is lined with attached one-story and two-story storefront buildings, including some two-story Italianate structures. Although some of these buildings have been altered to the point where they have lost their historic status, the historic streetscape of storefront buildings with no setback has been retained. On the other hand, the east side of the street was historically composed of detached Greek Revival dwellings and stores. In the past twenty years, this side of the street has experienced the loss of most of the historic Greek Revival dwellings; remaining are a former Greek Revival house (#20) and one Greek Revival store (#16). Replacing the lost dwellings are parking lots and a Neo-Colonial Revival bank (#24).

At the north end of the historic district the North Street streetscape changes on both sides of the street, where there is a cluster of significant masonry historic structures. On the west side of the street, on the banks of the Walloomsac River, are a c. 1924 automobile showroom (#29) and a mid nineteenth century industrial complex (#30). On the east side of the street, there are an 1842 foundry (#27) and an 1899 Renaissance Revival school (#32). This cluster of buildings surrounds the 1936 paneled steel girder bridge that carries North Street over the Walloomsac River (#31).

Within the historic district, Main Street west of Route 7 is dominated by historic two and three-story brick commercial buildings, including a large brick industrial building (#33). Putnam Square, the focal point of the historic district, has significant historic buildings on three of its four corners: The 1870 three-story brick Italianate Putnam Hotel (#12), the 1886 three-story brick High Victorian Gothic Post Office/County National Bank (#40), and the 1931 Neo-Classical Revival marble First National Bank (#38). All four buildings help define this important intersection by having angled or rounded corners.

Main Street east of Route 7 is mostly a mix of attached masonry commercial structures that range from one to three stories and that date from 1845 to 2006. Exceptions include semi-public

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buildings such as the 1833/1906 High Victorian Gothic Methodist Church (#52), the 1912 Tudor Revival Masonic Temple (#65), the 1959 American International Style Vermont Bank & Trust Company (#64), the 1972 former Dunkin Donuts building (#57), and a public building, the 1865 Renaissance Revival Bennington Free Public Library (#67). Exceptions also include four 1830s-1840s Greek Revival former residences (#54, 60, 62 and 68). Although these buildings are detached, they are in close proximity to the adjacent structures, retaining the closely-spaced rhythm of the streetscape. The only breaks in the streetscape are a large empty lot, which is the location of a historic commercial building that burned down in 1992 (between #60 and 61), and the Dunkin Donuts building, which has a large setback (#57).

Throughout its two hundred years of history, Bennington village has experienced growth and change. The historic resources date from the 1830s to 1950, and the non-historic resources date from the 1950s to 2006, and therefore also display a variety of building types and uses and architectural styles. This diversity is one of the most important features of the historic district and instead of creating a disjointed appearance, the village maintains to a large degree its visual continuity of densely settled rows of buildings, interspersed with detached, intact, significant nineteenth century and early twentieth century resources that enhance the historic appearance of the streetscapes. This continuity, in addition to the architectural diversity, gives the historic district its special sense of place. The loss of historic structures in Bennington village is due mostly to the numerous fires that have plagued Main Street throughout the both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, but must also be attributed to the removal of structures on the east side of North Street to make way for parking lots and a modern commercial building.

The oldest surviving buildings in the historic district are mostly wood frame 2-1/2 story Greek Revival dwellings constructed in the 1830s and 1840s (#4, 7, 20, 26, 54, 60, and 62). All of these have been converted to other uses, including the Root House, which has been the Town Offices since the early 1920s (#4). Other early buildings include the 1847 brick Greek Revival Lyons House (#68), two 1840s stone gable-roofed industrial buildings (#2 and 27), and the two oldest surviving stores in the historic district, a detached wood frame c. 1850 1-1/2 story Greek Revival building (#16), and a c. 1845 three-story brick structure facing Main Street, which is now part of the Chittenden Bank complex (#40). Other mid nineteenth century structures include the 1851 Stark Hose building (#17), Bennington's oldest surviving fire house and one of its only Second Empire style structures, and the c. 1855 brick Eagle Iron Works factory and its detached office (#30).

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Structures that date to the last half of the nineteenth century are much different than the earlier ones and reflect Bennington's commercial and industrial progress during this century. Most of these are substantial two and three story brick blocks. One of the oldest brick blocks in the historic district is the Renaissance Revival 1865 Bennington Free Public Library (#67), which remains the library to this day. At Putnam Square, there are three adjacent, large, three-story brick Italianate structures, the 1865 Park/Drysdale Block (#10), the 1870 South Shire Bennington County Courthouse (#11), and the 1870 Putnam Hotel (#12). Across Main Street from the Putnam Hotel is the 1868 brick three-story Italianate First National Bank of Bennington (#35), and across South Street from the Putnam Hotel is the 1886 three-story brick High Victorian Gothic Post Office/County National Bank building (#40). Wood frame Italianate blocks from this time period are scattered on North Street and Main Street (#21, 22, 28, 43, 56, and 63).

Larger multi-bay masonry commercial blocks were constructed toward the end of the nineteenth century, including the c. 1895 three story brick A.H. Winslow Block (#37), which was later expanded, and the 1896 three story brick Ritchie Block (#59), which is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Other brick commercial blocks of this period were also constructed near the east end of the historic district (#70, 71 and 72).

Monumental detached public and semi-public buildings dating from the early twentieth century are scattered around the historic district. One of the oldest surviving structures in the historic district is the 1833 stone Methodist Church, which is now the rear section of a 1906 High Victorian Gothic Methodist Church (#52). Others include the 1899 Renaissance Revival St. Francis de Sales Academy (#32), the 1912 Tudor Revival Masonic Temple (#65), the 1914 Neo-Classical Revival Post Office (#8), the 1931 Neo-Classical Revival First National Bank of Bennington (#38), and the 1936 Colonial Revival South Shire Bennington County Courthouse (#3). In 1936, a Colonial Revival building was constructed as an annex to the public library; it faces Silver Street (#67).

There are also several early twentieth century detached brick industrial structures scattered around the historic district, including the c. 1904 Furniture Warehouse at the rear of a building on Main Street (#70A), the 1920 Bennington Garage (#34), the c. 1924 Taylor's Garage (#29), and the 1927 Marshall's Garage (#1).

Early twentieth century commercial buildings include wood frame blocks on North Street such as the c. 1920 wood frame Italianate store that later became King's Shoe Repair (#25). Main Street

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buildings from this time include the yellow-brick 1924 Cone Block (#51), the 1929 stone-veneer Neo-Classical Revival Fienberg block (#53), and the c. 1927 two-story brick A&P grocery (#61). The only building that remains a single-family dwelling within the historic district is a c. 1920 Bungalow (#6) located behind the Town Offices.

The most recently constructed historic resources are two-story brick commercial structures. Two were built next to each other in 1946 on Main Street (#48 and 50), and one was built in 1950 on South Street (#9) between the two former post office buildings. All of these buildings have appearances and setbacks that help retain the historic streetscape character. A c. 1902 Colonial Revival office building was moved to North Street in 1987 (#18).

The Downtown Bennington Historic District has intact examples of almost every type of historic resource generally found in Vermont villages of its size, including a town hall (#4), two post offices (#8 and 40), two courthouses (#3 and 11), a school (#32), a hotel (#12), one, two and three-story commercial storefront buildings dating from a 100 year period, industrial buildings (#1, 2, 27, 29, 30 and 34), a church (#52), three banks (#35, 38 and 40), a fire house (#17), a library (#67), a Masonic Temple (#65), a bridge (#31), and single family and multi-family dwellings (although interestingly, there are no buildings that are strictly apartment blocks in the historic district).

**Individual Descriptions**

**1. Marshall's Garage/Bijur Lubricating Corp., 210 South St., 1927/c. 1945/c. 1960/2003, contributing (#48 of original district)**

This large multi-section brick industrial structure is located on the east side of South Street between Union Street and Hillside Avenue, and is in close proximity to all three streets. (The northwest corner of this street block is a separate property.) The South Street section faces west and has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to Hillside Avenue. The Union Street section faces north and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to Union Street. The northeast corner of the South Street section is attached to the southwest corner of the Union Street via a connector section which projects northwest into the courtyard at the northwest corner of the property. There is a large parking lot east of the Union Street section.

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All of the sections have brick veneer walls with brick piers and flat roofs with concrete copings. The front section of the South Street building is a symmetrical Neo-Classical Revival block that is two bays deep with each bay defined by large brick piers and corner pilasters. It has a two-story central pavilion with a reproduction Georgian doorway surround with fluted pilasters, a transom light and segmental-arched pediment. Above the doorway is a recessed arched panel. Flanking the doorway are three window bays which are divided by pilasters that are interrupted by first and second story entablatures.

The first story of the front elevation, and the front two bays of the side elevations, have regularly-spaced twelve-over-twelve wood windows with eight-pane round-arched tops, and concrete impost blocks and keystones. Above these, the second story has six-over-six wood windows with concrete keystones. The rest of the long elevations of the South Street section (eight bays behind/east of the front two bays) have large brick piers separating the banks of double-hung modern metal-framed windows. Beneath the second story windows are spandrels of oversized brown-glazed bricks laid in an American-bond pattern. The first story has paired windows and the second story has banks of six windows.

The six bay by nine bay Union Street section has a raised concrete foundation, brick veneer walls, brick corner pilasters, a concrete lintelcourse at the second story windows that meets the top of brick concrete-capped piers that separate every other bay, a concrete lintelcourse at the first story windows that is interrupted by the piers, concrete window sills, concrete diamond medallions between the first and second story windows, and two by five horizontal steel-framed industrial windows. The brick juncture building has three sections: the one in the corner is a two story brick structure that matches the Union Street section of the complex; west of this is a one-story brick structure topped with a glazed addition, and west of this there is a two-story glazed entry vestibule addition.

The front Neo-Classical Revival section and the first story of the rest of the South Street section were built in 1927 as an automobile garage and showroom. The Neo-Classical Revival section, which now has arched double hung windows, originally had large storefront windows at the first story and steel industrial sash at the second story. The second story of the rear section was added after 1956, which is probably when the front section was remodeled in the Neo-Classical Revival style. Based on their appearance, these alterations probably took place shortly after 1956. Until recently, the rear of the South Street section had large multi-pane industrial sash.

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The Union Street section was added before 1946, as it appears on the Sanborn map of this year as a bowling alley (its design, however, suggests it was originally used for industrial purposes). The small brick juncture structures were added after 1956. From 2001-2003, the entire building underwent a complete rehabilitation, including the addition of the glazed sections above and adjacent to the juncture sections, and the replacement of all the industrial windows. Unlike the rear of the South Street section, the replacement windows of the Union Street section match its original windows. The entire complex is now in excellent condition.

The South Street section was constructed for Warren Marshall as Marshall's Garage, to replace his garage across the street in the old blacksmith shop (#2). Marshall's sold Buicks, Maxells and Oakland automobiles and car accessories, rented out automobiles, and had an automobile paint shop. In 1946, the Bijur Lubricating Corporation purchased the property and probably shortly thereafter returned the bowling alley section to industrial use. Bijur had been founded by Joseph Bijur in New York City in 1923, and made Bennington its headquarters in 1946. The factory manufactured "automatic centralized lubricating systems and units which cool metal cutting tools with a spray mist." In 1971, Bijur moved to Kocher Drive (and remained there until about 2004), and the subject building became the C.B. Sports factory.

In the original National Register nomination, only the South Street section was included as a contributing resource. In 2001, the Union Street section was certified as a contributing resource in the historic district, so that the property would be eligible for historic preservation financial incentives. The current owner purchased the property in 2001 and conducted a comprehensive rehabilitation in compliance with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

The building is an excellent example of a well-preserved industrial resource. The front of the South Street section has significant features such as the Georgian Revival doorway, arched multi-pane windows, entablatures and pilasters, and window impost blocks and keystones. The mid twentieth century remodeling demonstrates the importance of the classical revival styles during the mid twentieth century. The rest of the building depicts a typical mid twentieth century industrial structure with brick piers, large window openings, and lintelcourses.

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**2. Graves & Root Blacksmith Shop, 209 South Street, c. 1845, contributing (#1 of original district)**

This 2-1/2 story fieldstone industrial building is located at the northwest corner of South Street and Elm Street. It has small setbacks from both streets, and faces east toward South Street. The three bay by four bay front-gable Greek Revival structure has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to South Street, fieldstone walls, a standing-seam metal roof with boxed cornices, three tall brick interior chimneys at the north roof slope, and wood architectural details such as molded cornice and gable trim, gable rakes with bed moldings, a tall friezeboard with bed moldings, molded cornice returns, and stone window lintels. The centered front entry has a large stone lintel, a wood doorway enframingent, full-height multi-pane sidelights, and a multi-pane transom. The regularly-spaced window openings contain twelve-over-twelve wood units, and the front entry has a modern wood door. At the rear of the building, there is a two-story wood frame addition with clapboard siding and a gabled roof.

Judging by deed records, the building was probably constructed in 1845, the year that the property was purchased by Luther Graves and Henry Root. The parcel also included the land that now contains the courthouse (#3) and the town offices building, which was originally Root's house (#4). The building has not had any major alterations, except for the doorway, which replaced a carriage bay. The wood frame addition dates to the late nineteenth century. Greek Revival features of the building include its front-gable orientation, stone window lintels, and the multi-pane regularly-spaced windows.

The blacksmith shop was built for the partners' firm of Graves & Root, which had been established in 1839 in Old Bennington, where they lived at the time. Graves & Root originally had their business on Root's father's property in Old Bennington. Graves & Root manufactured tin products and sold them through their "Yankee Peddler" system, in which peddlers traveled around with carts selling their wares directly from the cart. At one time, Graves & Root reportedly had as many as one hundred carts. Root produced the tin products and Graves was responsible for the peddlers.

The water source of the blacksmith shop was a small stream that originated at a pond to the south and flowed just west of shop. This stream was later diverted to an underground pipe that runs northwest into the Walloomsac River. The source of iron was probably the Bennington Ironworks, which was located on what is now Route 9 near the Woodford town line.

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Besides the blacksmith shop, Graves & Root also had a tin shop in Bennington village on an adjacent parcel that they had purchased in 1844. This lot fronted West Main Street and was contiguous with the west line of the subject parcel, and the tin shop front Main Street near what was later to become the Putnam House (#12). This shop appears on the 1852 map of the village. Graves lived nearby this on Main Street in a house that was later moved to make way for the Knights of Columbus building (#33).

The 1856 map of Bennington shows that a detached wagon manufactory was constructed west of the blacksmith shop, although it disappeared before the printing of the 1869 map. By this time, due to the advent of the railroad in Bennington in 1852, the peddler business declined but the building remained a blacksmith shop. After shoeing horses for quite a while at the shop for Graves & Root, J.S. Brant became the proprietor of the shop in 1888. He called himself a "scientific horseshoer" and had the first exclusive horseshoeing business in Bennington. In 1896, although there were six other blacksmith shops in Bennington, this was the only one in the historic district. Brant died about 1907, and his son LeRoy took over, but did not stay long. J.P. Toomey, who had been working in the shop since the 1880s, took over, and then died in the early 1910s.

At this point, the building ceased to serve as a blacksmith shop, and became as automobile repair shop called Lowe's garage, which was operated by William Lowe, and the second story had been converted to living space. Lowe also rented automobiles and sold Briscoe cars, which were produced between 1914 and 1921. In 1920, the Town of Bennington purchased the parcel so that the Root house could be converted to the town offices. In 1925, the Town subdivided the parcel and sold the blacksmith shop to Warren Marshall, who operated Marshall's Garage there, and Lowe moved his operation to North Bennington. Marshall quickly outgrew the space and in 1927 moved into his new garage across the street (#1).

From 1927 until about 1950, the building served as the Bennington Girls' Club, was a gift shop until about 1960, and then was the home of the Greater Bennington Chamber of Commerce. It was the Bennington police station from 1971 to 1999, when the station moved to the Post Office building up the street (#8). The blacksmith shop has been the Bennington Welcome Center since 2004.

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**3. South Shire Bennington County Courthouse #5, 207 South Street, 1936, contributing (#2 of original district)**

This two-story Neo-Classical Revival courthouse is located on the west side of South Street and has a moderate setback from the street. South of the building, there is a large lawn, and north of the building, there is a paved parking lot. There are two mature oak trees in front of the building. The three bay by six bay building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, ashlar marble veneer underpinning, brick veneer walls, and a hipped slate roof.

Spanning most of the front elevation is a monumental portico with Tuscan columns, a full entablature, and a modillioned pediment with swags decorating the tympanum. Engaged pilasters on the front elevation of the building mirror the columns. Centered on the roof ridge, there is a cupola with a square base with quoins, an open octagonal belfry with angled columns, a full entablature, a historic bell, and a gold-leaf faceted dome topped with a ball finial. There is also a one bay deep brick projection at the rear of the building.

Architectural trim includes a molded wood roof cornice and molded frieze, marble window sills and keystones, and flat brick window arches. The centered front entry has a semicircular arched marble frame and keystone. The arched transom is a solid panel with the seal of Vermont and the inscription "Bennington County." The building has regularly-spaced window openings. The first story has six-over-six wood windows. Centered on the second story of the side elevations are four round-arched openings with twelve-over-twelve wood windows and solid panel transoms. Flanking these groupings are six-over-six wood windows, and the second story of the front elevation also has six-over-six windows. Staggered window openings at the right end of the north elevation reveal the location of an interior staircase.

The courthouse was constructed in 1936 and does not appear to have had any major alterations. It is in very good condition. Neo-Classical Revival features include the symmetry, monumental portico with pediment and Tuscan columns, hipped roof, cupola, regularly-spaced multi-pane windows, arched window and door openings, and flat arches with keystones.

The building was constructed as Bennington's fifth South Shire Courthouse, and has served this purpose since its construction. It was designed to match the third courthouse, which was erected in 1847, stood in Old Bennington near the Old First Church, and burned down in 1869. The first two courthouses stood near what was to become the Bennington Monument; both of these burned

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down as well. In 1870, the fourth courthouse, the first one in Bennington village, was constructed on South Street (#11). It remains standing, but was replaced due to size constraints.

**4. Root, Henry and Catherine, House/Bennington Town Office, 205 South Street, c. 1846, contributing (#3 of original district)**

This 2-1/2 story former dwelling is located on the west side of South Street, across from the intersection with Union Street. It has a large setback from the street behind a lawn with two large deciduous trees. South and west of the building, there are paved parking lots. The wood frame Greek Revival building has many sections, including a front-gable three bay wide main block with two side wings, a long wing extending west from the front south wing, another long wing extending west from the main block, and another wing extending west of this. There is a concrete block town vault at the southwest corner of the building. Despite the addition of the rear sections, the front elevation maintains its original symmetry.

The entire building has clapboard siding, except for the concrete block vault and shiplap-sided tympanum of the front pediment. The main block, side wings, and center rear wing have stone foundations, and the rest of the building has concrete foundations. All the sections have gabled slate roofs, except for the vault and the northwest addition, which have flat roofs. A full-façade one-story Greek Revival porch spans the pedimented front elevation of the main block. It has Tuscan columns supporting a full entablature and flat roof.

Architectural trim of the main block includes a molded pediment over a full entablature that encircles the block, bold corner pilasters and mix of flat-stock and architrave window and door casings. The side wings have eave entablatures and cornice returns, bold corner pilasters, molded gable trim and gable rakes, and architrave window casings. The rest of the building has flat-stock friezeboards, cornerboards, and window and door casings.

The front elevation of the sidehall-plan main block has a doorway opening in each of the three bays. The two left openings have been infilled with wood six-over-six windows over the remains of closed shutters. The right bay has the original large doorway opening, that now contains double-leaf French doors. At the second story and in the gable, there are regularly-spaced six-over-one wood windows. The front elevation of each wing has a Chicago window with a single pane center and multi-pane side windows. The rest of the building has irregularly-spaced

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individual and paired multi-pane wood windows. At the extension behind the south side wing, the windows are paired awnings.

The building was constructed as a dwelling in 1846 or 1847. The front side wings are probably original, and there was originally a small rear wing. The wood frame extension behind the south wing was added in the 1910s. In the early 1920s, the rear wing was replaced with the larger, extant wing. The front windows of the side wings probably date to the 1920s, when the building was converted to the town offices. The vault was added to the south extension in 1949, and the northern rear addition was constructed during the third quarter of the twentieth century. The French doors appear to be of recent vintage, and probably replaced a single-leaf door flanked by sidelights. The building is in very good condition. Greek Revival features include the front-gable orientation, pedimented gable with shiplap siding, entablatures, flat-roofed porch with Doric columns, and bold corner pilasters.

The building was constructed as a dwelling for Henry Root, who along with Luther Graves established the firm Root & Graves in 1839. Root & Graves were from Old Bennington and sold tinware through a "Yankee peddler" system, where salesmen traveled around and sold their wares off the backs of wagons. In 1844, the partners bought an eleven acre parcel that was located behind the subject lot and that also fronted West Main Street. They built a tin shop and stove store fronting Main Street, next to what was later to become the Putnam House (#12). They began manufacturing their own tinware and glassware, and eventually maintained several wagons, reportedly as many as one hundred. Graves also built his own house next to the tin shop; this house was later the Knights of Columbus headquarters and moved to make way for a new K of C building (#33).

Graves & Root purchased the subject parcel in March 1845, and a year later, Graves sold Root his half-share at a price that suggests that there was no building on the property. Therefore, the house was not built earlier than 1846. Henry Root (1818-1899) was married to his neighbor Catherine in December 1846, so perhaps the house was constructed in anticipation of or shortly after their marriage. The house may have been built by William Park of Woodford, who is known to have built many Greek Revival homes in Bennington. The Roots had two children; Samuel, who moved to New Jersey, and Catherine, also known as Kate.

Graves & Root became largest distributors of tinware in Vermont. They also established the second national bank founded in Vermont, called the First National Bank of Bennington (#35),

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with Graves as president and Root as vice president, positions that they held until their deaths. Root was also the chairman of the committee in charge of organizing the centennial celebration of the Battle of Bennington, served in the state legislature, and for more than thirty years was a director of the Vermont State agricultural society.

Henry Root's wife Catherine died in 1887, and Henry was remarried to Mary in 1889. Henry and Mary Root moved to San Diego in 1896 and sold the homestead to Henry's daughter Catherine and her husband William Root (a distant cousin). Despite the substantial increase in development in the village during the fifty years the house had been standing, the lot size remained the same, extending south to Elm Street and including the blacksmith shop (#2). By this point, Root & Graves had ceased their business operations, and the eleven acre lot behind the house had been sold to Henry Putnam, who owned the Putnam House (#12).

In 1920, Catherine and William Root sold the property to the Town of Bennington. At this point the lot included the house, a barn, and the blacksmith shop (#2), and the courthouse (#3) lot had yet to be developed. After some renovations, the Town Offices opened in the Root House in January 1925.

The earliest town clerk's offices were located in the homes of the town clerks. In 1880, town clerk David Squires lived on East Main Street near Union Street. In 1887, when the town clerk was Edward A. Booth, the office was moved to a building at the northeast corner of Main and Valentine Streets, which was known as the Goldsmith property. Booth was a partner in the firm Booth & Harris, which sold real estate and insurance. He remained town clerk for forty-four more years until his death. The town clerk's office was later in a building next to what is now the Bennington Banner on Main Street. The office moved into the Ritchie Block on Main Street (#59) upon its completion in 1896, in a space specifically built for the town offices. Booth & Harris were also located in the building. The town office remained in the Ritchie Block until March 1923. From April 1923 to December 1924, it was in the Fienberg Block (#53).

**5. Chittenden Bank Annex, 204 South Street, 1974, non-contributing (#47 of original district)**

This one-story wood frame building is located at the southeast corner of South Street and Union Street. It has a moderate setback from South Street and abuts the Union Street sidewalk. The building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to South Street, a concrete foundation,

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clapboard siding, and a gabled asphalt-shingle roof with an offset ridge oriented parallel to South Street. Most of the building is a covered drive-through, accessed through large openings in each gable wall, and there are two large openings in the east wall as well, for light and ventilation. The enclosed section fronts South Street; this elevation has two shallow bay projections, one containing the entry and the other containing a bank of four vertical windows. The building was constructed in 1974 and has always served as an annex to the bank at the southeast corner of Main Street and South Street (#). It is non-contributing due to its age. This structure replaced a c. 1950 gas station.

**6. Rogers House, 203 South Street, c. 1915, contributing (#5 of original district)**

This 1-1/2 story wood frame Bungalow is located on a small lot behind Property #7. It faces south, is symmetrical, and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a fieldstone foundation, clapboard siding, and an open-eave side-gable slate roof with a deep overhang. There is a full-façade recessed Colonial Revival porch spanning the front elevation. It has a clapboard half-wall and Tuscan columns, and a staircase in the right bay. Architectural trim is limited to flat-stock window and door casings and thin molded gable rakes. There are paneled inserts between the pair of windows in each gable. The three bay wide front elevation contains a center doorway flanked by individual windows. The doorway has a wood door with a multi-pane upper light flanked by multi-pane full-height sidelights, and the square window openings contain ten-over-one Craftsman wood windows. The rest of the house contains regularly-spaced six-over-one or eight-over-one wood windows.

The house was constructed sometime between 1912 and 1921, is in good condition, and does not appear to have had any major alterations. It is a good example of a Bungalow-type dwelling, and is one of the only Bungalows in Bennington. Features of this type include the symmetry, deep overhanging roof, recessed Colonial Revival porch, and windows with multi-pane upper sash and single-pane lower sash. The house was constructed for the Rogers family, who lived in the adjacent house that fronted South Street (#7). They rented it out.

**7. Walker, Albert, House, 201 South Street, c. 1847/c. 1960, contributing (#4 of original district)**

This Greek Revival former dwelling with Neo-Colonial Revival commercial additions is located on a small lot on the west side of South Street. It has a small setback from the street and consists

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of a two-story wood frame main block with a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and a rear wing, and concrete block wings that span the side elevations of the main block and its rear wing. The front sections of the wings are set askew to the main block, creating a courtyard in front of the building. The main block has a stone foundation, clapboard siding, and a front-gable asphalt-shingle roof with boxed cornices. The wings have brick veneer walls, side-gable asphalt-shingle roofs and board and batten gables at the front skewed sections, and shed roofs on the sections that span the side elevations of the main block.

The main block has a monumental full-façade Greek Revival portico. The portico has Doric columns, a molded cornice at the gable and eaves, clapboard siding in the gable, and a band of dentils marking the former location of an entablature's frieze. Centered on the front gable wall is a modern glazed wood frame door flanked by single-pane display windows. At the left end of the gable wall there is a modern wood door with a single-pane upper light. At the second story, there are two irregularly-spaced one-over-one windows. Most of the side elevations are blocked by the modern wings, but horizontal attic windows are visible.

Each of the front sections of the side wings is symmetrical and has a centered doorway flanked by display windows. The doors and windows have Neo-Colonial Revival window and doorway trim, with denticulated cornices. Both doors are paneled wood with four-pane upper lights. The left wing has single-pane vertical display windows, and the right wing has multi-pane horizontal display windows. The long side elevations of the wings have regularly-spaced paired awning windows.

The Greek Revival main block was constructed about 1847 and is in fair condition. The entire front gable wall has been altered. A c. 1910 photo shows that the gable originally had a pediment and full entablature. There was a Greek Revival doorway in the left bay, with a paneled wood door, sidelights, and a transom. The first story had full-height windows, and there were three regularly-spaced windows at the second story. Each side elevation was spanned by a one-story porch with Doric columns and full entablature. The second story of the side elevations had regularly-spaced six-over-six windows.

A small projection was added to the northwest corner of the main block, probably in the 1860s, for use as a doctor's office. The front elevation may have been altered in the 1930s, when the building was converted to a store. The side wings were probably added in the 1960s, replacing the side porches and doctor's office.

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The house was constructed for Albert Walker, who had previously owned the land upon which sat the Franklin House and Putnam Hotel (#12). Walker lived there until about 1857, when the property was sold to David Carpenter. Carpenter sold the property in 1865 to Harriett J. Morgan, and the 1869 Beers map shows that the house was occupied by Dr. Edward Morgan. The 1880 city directory identifies Dr. Morgan, MD, as an allopathic physician and surgeon, with his office at the house. In 1883, Dr. Lyman Rogers (1832-1900) joined Dr. Morgan's practice. The 1885 Sanborn map shows that the building is a dwelling with an attached doctor's office, and there is also a detached rear barn. In 1886, the house, which is now identified as a tenement, was sold to Frank E. Morgan, and was then sold in 1890 to Dr. Lyman Rogers, who had taken over Dr. Morgan's practice. Dr. Rogers lived and practiced here, and his daughters Anna, Susan and Laura also lived here. After Dr. Rogers' death, his daughters acquired the property, and probably lived here until the 1920s. The building was converted to a store about the 1930s, and the wings and rear addition were constructed about the 1960s, for use as commercial space.

**8. United States Post Office, 118 South Street, 1914, contributing (#46 of original district)**

This one-story Neo-Classical Revival building is located at the northeast corner of South Street and Union Street and faces South Street. It has a small setback from both streets, and a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to South Street. The symmetrical flat-roofed building is nine bays wide and six bays deep, and is built of marble-faced concrete. It has a raised basement and a shallow attic story with a parapet. The front elevation has a seven bay wide recessed portico with Doric columns resting on bases. Each column is mirrored with a pilaster on the interior wall of the portico. A staircase spans the width of the portico, and is flanked by marble plinths that support cast metal lamps with torchere bases. On either side of the portico, the walls are blank and unfenestrated.

Architectural details include a full entablature below the parapet, with a frieze with metopes enriched with paterae. The parapet is stepped at the front elevation, and has a plain coping. Above each window opening within the porch, there is a blind window with Greek grille work panels. Each bay of the Union Street elevation is defined by a pilaster, and above each window there is a fielded panel. The windows have plain projecting sills. The centered front entry has double-leafed six-panel wood doors and a twelve-pane transom window. The building has regularly-spaced one-over-one wood replacement windows; all but the Union Street elevation windows have twelve-pane false muntins to match the original windows. The north elevation

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has eighteen narrow attic windows that define the mezzanine spanning the north side of the building.

The building was constructed in 1914 and is in excellent condition. Neo-Classical Revival features include the symmetry, monumental appearance, raised basement, Doric columns with bases, decorated entablature, parapet, pilasters, and decorative panels. It is an excellent example of a Neo-Classical Revival public building, and was individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The only alterations appear to be the late twentieth century replacement of the original twelve-over-twelve wood windows and the glazed wood doors at the front entry.

The building was constructed as a United States Post Office and was designed by James Knox Taylor, supervising architect for the United States Treasury from 1897-1912. It served as a post office until 1967, when a new post office was constructed around the corner on Elm Street. From 1967 to 1996, it served as a United States Federal Building, and then was conveyed to the Town of Bennington. From 1999 on, it has served as the Bennington police station.

Bennington's first post office was located in Old Bennington until 1848. After that, both Old Bennington and Bennington village had their own post office. The first post office in Bennington village was located in a small building at the southeast corner of Main Street and South Street. By the 1853, the post office was located in the building next door on South Street, known as the Adams Block. In 1857, it was moved to a building across the street from the Methodist Church (#52). From 1861 to 1872, the post office was located on the east side of North Street, just north of the intersection with Main Street. Then, it was located in the library (#72). In 1886, a building was constructed at the southeast corner of Main Street and South Street. It housed the post office and a retail store until the subject building was constructed.

Bennington's first police officers were hired in 1856, and the first police station was a room with a jail cell in the 1865 courthouse on South Street (#11). In 1931, the police station moved to the second story of the town offices on South Street (#4), and then into the old blacksmith shop in 1971, where it stayed until it moved into the subject building in 1999.

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**9. Wills Insurance, 116 South Street, 1950, contributing (#45 of original district)**

This two-story Colonial Revival building is located on the east side of South Street. It has a very small setback from the street and a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. The three bay wide by seven bay deep building has a concrete foundation, concrete block walls with brick veneer, and a flat roof. Spanning most of the south elevation, and projecting slightly forward from the street elevation, is a one story flat-roofed eight bay arcade that leads to the main entry to the building. At the right end of this arcade, there is a glazed enclosed vestibule with paneled half-walls and a bank of multi-pane windows. There is a heavily molded cornice at the roof edge. The first story of the street elevation has a multi-pane bow window flanked by round-arched window openings with paneled round-arched transoms. Elsewhere, there are regularly-spaced double-hung replacement windows with false muntins.

The building was constructed in 1950 and is in excellent condition. Colonial Revival features include the rectangular massing, arcade, molded cornice, regularly-spaced windows, bow window, and round-arched window openings. Except for the replacement windows, it does not appear to have had any alterations.

The building has always served as the office of the Wills Insurance company. Wills Insurance was established by William H. Wills (1882-1946) in 1915. Before that, Wills had been employed by Drysdale's Department Store (#10) selling shoes. Without permission from Mr. Drysdale, Wills began to sell insurance while working at the store. When Drysdale learned of this, Wills was fired, but until Drysdale's closed in 1977 it was a customer of Wills Insurance. Wills also became an influential business leader in Bennington, and was elected Governor of Vermont from 1941-1945. The Wills Insurance building replaced the c. 1875 Adams Block, a three-story brick Italianate commercial storefront building.

**10. Park/Drysdale Block, 113 South Street, c. 1865, contributing (#6 of original district)**

This three story symmetrical brick Italianate commercial block is located on the west side of South Street, and is the southernmost structure in a line of three brick Italianate commercial buildings that abut the sidewalk. It is six bays wide and seven bays deep, and has brick masonry walls, a flat roof, a high-style Italianate cornice, and a modern glazed projecting storefront. At the second and third stories, there are a center pilaster and corner pilasters, and each bay is defined by full-height blind arches with alternating segmental and round arches.

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The elaborate wood cornice has large scrolled brackets defining each bay, which support a molded cornice with a projecting segmental-arched hood over the second and fifth bays. Between each bracket, there are smaller scrolled brackets on an entablature. Beneath the cornice, the brick walls terminate in brick round-arched arcading. Beneath each arcade and large scrolled bracket, there is a wood fleur-de-lis. The window openings at the second and third stories have alternating segmental and round-arched molded hoods with keystones and decorative impost blocks. The building has regularly-spaced tall two-over-two wood windows. At the front elevation, they have alternating segmental and round arches. The south elevation has segmental-arched two-over-two wood windows. The projecting storefront serves two stores, and has a stone-veneer skirt, metal-framed single-pane display windows, and double-leaf metal-framed glass doors centered on each storefront.

The building was constructed about 1865 and is in very good condition. The storefront appears to date to the 1960s. Despite this, the building remains a good example of an Italianate commercial block. Italianate features include the elaborate cornice with scrolled brackets and arcading, the arched window hoods, and the arched two-over-two windows. The storefront is the third one of this building. The first one was flush with the front elevation of the building and had brick piers and a center round-arched doorway flanked by paired round-arched two-over-two full height windows over short paneled skirts. This storefront was later expanded (probably about 1906) to have splayed display areas with full-height plate glass windows and with thin cast iron frames.

The Park/Drysdale Block was constructed for Trenor Park, Bennington's leading businessman from the 1860s until his death in 1886. He was an owner of the Panama Railroad, the Harlem Extension Railroad, and the Bennington & Rutland Railroad. He also helped establish the Bennington Free Library and the Park Home. The Park Block originally had two retail establishments in the storefronts, office space on the second floor, and the Masonic Hall on the third floor. The 1885 Sanborn map shows that the Bennington County National Bank occupied one storefront, and a dry goods store occupied the other. The bank had been chartered in 1878, and moved out of this building in 1895 into a new building at the northeast corner of Main Street and North Street. The third story was occupied by the Masonic Hall until the Masons moved into their new hall in the Ritchie Block in 1896 (#59).

In 1906, the Park Block was purchased by A. Drysdale and Son for its dry goods/department store business. It was operated by Robert Drysdale, whose father Alexander Drysdale (1832-

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1884) had started the company in 1873 on Mill Street, and then moved in 1891 to a building at the corner of North Street and River Street. The next Drysdale to operate the business was Alexander B.R. Drysdale (1904-1984), Robert's son. When it closed in 1977, Drysdale's was one of Bennington's oldest businesses. In the end, it was selling ladies' and children's apparel. For the past twenty years, the storefronts have been occupied by Jay's Cards and Gifts.

**11. South Shire Bennington County Courthouse #4/Pennysaver Press, 109 South Street, 1870, contributing (#7 of original district)**

This two-story brick Italianate commercial building is located on the west side of South Street, and is the middle structure in a line of three brick Italianate commercial buildings that abut the sidewalk. It is five bays wide and has a monumental second story; making it the same height as the adjacent three-story buildings. The structure has brick masonry walls and a gabled roof hidden behind the front parapet wall. There is a modern brick storefront, and the second story has a centered projecting three-bay pavilion that is taller than the outer bays. The pavilion and side bays each have overhanging molded wood cornices, and the pavilion has a center segmental-arched hood. The cornices are supported by scrolled brackets that divide brick panels at the frieze level. Above the side bays, there is a wood parapet with paneled corner piers.

Each bay of the building is defined by brick pilasters that terminate at drop-finial brick corbelling beneath the cornice; the corbelling in the center bay creates a segmental arch to mirror the arched hood above. There is a tall round-arched window opening in each bay; the windows in the side bays rest on stone beltcourses above a brick panel. Each window opening has a stone keystone and impost blocks. The center opening contains paired round-arched eight-pane wood windows; above the windows there is a tracery transom. The rest of the openings contain individual eight-pane windows. All the upper panes of the windows are round-arched as well.

The storefront also has a projecting centered three bay wide pavilion, with a projecting wood roof with a cornice and tall flat signboard frieze. The center bay of the cornice has a segmental-arched hood over the recessed entry to the building. Each of the other four bays of the storefront has a vertical single-pane display window surmounted by a paneled wood cornice within the window opening.

The building was constructed in 1870 and is in very good condition. It originally had no storefront; instead, there were regularly-spaced window openings with stone keystones and two-

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over-two windows. The building also originally had a large tower centered above the front of the building, and an ornate one-story porch. The peak of the tower was 100 feet above street level. It had a square tapered base, an open belfry with decorative square corner columns and paired round-arched openings at each face, large scrolled brackets and a modillioned cornice, and a Mansard roof with projecting clock faces in round dormers. The clock faces were made of glass and painted green with black Roman numerals, and the glass was used so the clock could be illuminated from behind. The tower was removed in 1939. The one-story flat-roofed porch spanned the center pavilion and was supported by Ionic columns with scrolled brackets. It was probably removed shortly after the building was converted to stores in 1936. The second story and cornice of the building remains intact, and the building is a good example of an Italianate urban structure.

The building was constructed as Bennington's fourth courthouse, and was the first courthouse to be located in Bennington village instead of Old Bennington. As mentioned in the 1980 National Register nomination, this marked the end of the long dispute between Old Bennington and Bennington village as to which was the political and economic core of the town. Henry Putnam, who was in the process of building his hotel, the Putnam House (#12), donated the adjacent lot for use as a courthouse. The courthouse was built to match the hotel, and the courthouse and jail were located on the second story. Putnam used same architects for both buildings, Hobbs and Sons of Philadelphia. By the 1930s, the courthouse had become too small, and a new one was constructed down the street in 1936 (#3). The first story was then occupied by the grocery chain called the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company (A&P). For the past fifty years, it has been occupied by the Pennysaver Press.

**12. Putnam House, 101-105 South Street/349-357 Main Street, 1870, contributing (#8 of original district)**

This large three-story flat-roofed brick Italianate commercial building is located at the southwest corner of Main Street and South Street. It abuts the sidewalk, faces both streets, and has a curved corner at the intersection. The South Street elevation is seven bays wide, and the Main Street elevation is thirteen bays wide. The building has a complex footprint; there are large three-story wings behind each end of the building, which almost meet at the southwest corner of the property. The entire structure is of brick masonry construction except for the wood frame wing behind the west section of the building. The street elevations are lined with storefronts.

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Architectural trim includes an overhanging molded wood cornice supported by scrolled brackets, a brick corbelled frieze between the brackets, a molded wood beltcourse between the second and third stories and above the storefronts, segmental-arched brick window cornices with stone keystones, and stone window sills. Each storefront is generally separated by a brick pier, and each bay of the storefront is separated by cast iron square pilasters. Most of the storefronts have paneled wood skirts and full-height single-pane display windows. Most of the stores have double-leaf wood doors with tall single-pane lights. There is also a double-leaf modern French door with a multi-pane transom at the corner entry to the building.

The second and third stories of the building have regularly-spaced segmental-arched window openings containing six-over-six wood units with segmental-arched sash. There is also an iron balcony at the corner of the second story, which spans two bays on each side of the corner. The wood frame wing has asbestos siding and false-brick asphalt siding, a dormered Mansard roof, and a molded wood cornice with paired scrolled brackets.

The Putnam House was constructed in 1870 and is in very good condition. It was designed by Hobbs and Sons of Philadelphia, who also designed the adjacent courthouse (#11). Italianate features include the bracketed cornice, segmental-arched openings and windows, and cast iron pilasters. The pilasters were produced in Cohoes, New York. The wood frame section was constructed in 1866 and is the remains of the Mt. Anthony House hotel, which stood on the site of the Putnam House until the rest of it burned down in 1868. A full-façade two-story Italianate porch adorned the building from 1877 until the second quarter of the twentieth century. The building also did not originally have an entry at the corner. Except for alterations to some of the storefronts and the replacement of the porch with the balcony, the building does not appear to have had any major alterations. It is an excellent example of an Italianate commercial building and an important landmark anchoring the center of Bennington village.

The Putnam House was built as a hotel by Henry Putnam, one of Bennington's most important industrialists of the late nineteenth century. Putnam (1825-1915) was born in upstate New York and went to California during the gold rush. He made a living bottling and selling water; this inspired him to later invent a pressure jar closing device. He moved to Bennington in the early 1860s, purchased two industrial sites on North Street just south of the Walloomsac River (#27 and 30) and became a successful manufacturer of clothes wringers, double pointed tacks, fruit jar tops, and machines that made barbed wire, in addition to operating a grist mill. Putnam was also the first president of the Brooklyn Elevated Railway, a banker, a real estate developer, and he

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developed the village waterworks in 1886. Shortly before his death, he helped fund the construction of the local Henry W. Putnam Memorial Hospital, and donated the waterworks to the town.

The Putnam House was a luxury hotel with 75 rooms, steam central heating, plumbing, and electricity, at a time when these services were rare. Putnam intended to lease the hotel at first, with the stipulation that it be a temperance hotel. He could not find a lessee and it stood vacant until 1872, when he decided to retain control of it, which he did until his death. Although Putnam intended it to be a hotel for travelers, it also provided lodging for full-time boarders. Some of the first businesses to occupy storefronts in the hotel were the James Baker Restaurant, the E.T. Griswold Books & Stationery Store, which also sold sporting goods and musical goods, and frames, the Bennington Clothing Company, the store of Samuel Harris, which sold hardware, groceries, paints, oils, flour, lumber, and the store of James Haslam, which sold dry and fancy goods. The hotel also maintained an eighty acre farm to supply food for the restaurant, which was located at the south end of the South Street section, and a livery, which was located in the rear. About 1909, the livery was converted to the Putnam House Garage, which sold cars as well as storing them for guests.

After Putnam's death, his son Henry Jr. owned the property until 1923, when it was purchased by then hotel proprietors Charles and Georgianna Stafford. In 1925, ownership was transferred to the Hotel Putnam corporation. In 1949, the hotel was sold to two men from out of town, and it closed as a hotel about 1960. After this, the hotel rooms were rented out. In 1961, two local men purchased the property, Francis Morrissey and Charles Fienberg. In 1965 the building (as well as the courthouse to the south) were sold to George and Marie Hadwen, who publish the Pennysaver Press. The Hadwens continued to rent out hotel rooms until 1974, and then sold the property in 1987. Businesses that occupied the storefronts for extended periods during the twentieth century included the women's apparel store Vogue & Vanity, which was there from 1938 to at least 1977, and Beecher's Drug Store, which was located there from 1929 until at least 1977.

As mentioned earlier, the Putnam House stands in the location of the Mt. Anthony House, which burned in 1868. It was a large three story wood frame structure with a Mansard roof. This hotel was an expansion of the earlier Franklin House, which had been built sometime between 1822 and 1832 by Steven Dewey, and which was Bennington village's first hotel. In the 1850s, under new ownership, the hotel was enlarged and renamed the Mount Anthony House. It was enlarged

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again in 1866 with a large new building on the west side, the section that partially survives, only two years before the fire that claimed the rest of the hotel.

**13. Restaurant/Store, 106-108 North Street, c. 1895/c. 1990, non-contributing (#14 of original district)**

This small one-story flat-roofed wood frame commercial building is located on the west side of North Street and is part of a row of commercial buildings. The building abuts the sidewalk, and has clapboard siding. There are two entryways; one is recessed at the left end of the building and contains a modern veneer door, and one is off-center and flush with the front elevation with a metal-framed glazed door. Flanking the latter doorway are single-pane horizontal display windows of different sizes.

The building was constructed sometime between 1891 and 1896 as a restaurant and store, and has been completely altered. The current appearance dates to about 1990, and the building now serves as two stores. It is non-contributing due to the alterations.

**14. Crosier's Barber Shop, 110-112 North Street, c. 1935/c. 1990, non-contributing (#15 of original district)**

This small one-story flat-roofed wood frame commercial building is located on the west side of North Street and is part of a row of commercial buildings. The building abuts the sidewalk and has a brick veneer skirt and aluminum siding. There is an off-center recessed entry with a modern hollow-core door with sidelights, and the rest of the storefront is spanned by multi-pane display windows.

The building was constructed about 1935 as Crosier's Barber Shop, and has been completely altered. It may have originally had cultured stone veneer siding, two entries and metal-framed single-pane display windows. The current appearance dates to later than 1980. It is non-contributing due to the alterations.

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**15. J.J. Young Building, c. 1990, 116 North Street, non-contributing (#16 of original district)**

This two-story flat-roofed wood frame commercial building is located on the west side of North Street at the north end of a row of buildings. The building abuts the sidewalk and has a long rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. The projecting first story has brick veneer siding at the front bay; elsewhere the building has clapboard siding. Above the first story, there is a molded wood cornice. There is also a wood cornice at the roofline. The storefront has a recessed entry with a wood framed glazed door with a multi-pane light. Next to this is a single-pane display window with a multi-pane round-arched transom. Off-center on the front elevation of the second story is a horizontal single-pane window. The building was constructed sometime after 1980, and replaced a c. 1890 one-story brick building. It is currently occupied by the J.J. Young employment agency, and is non-contributing due to its age.

**16. Oatman/Packard/Morrissey Grocery Store, 125 North Street, c. 1855/c. 1990, contributing (#37 of original district)**

This 1-1/2 story wood frame Greek Revival commercial building is located at the northeast corner of North Street and Pleasant Street. It abuts the sidewalk along both streets, faces North Street, and has a full-façade porch, an ell that projects from the north elevation, a small rear wing, and a shed dormer at the south roof slope. The front-gable building has plank wall construction, a concrete (or parged) foundation, clapboard siding, and an asphalt-shingle roof with boxed cornices.

Architectural trim at both the main block and ell includes a full entablature, cornice returns, flat-stock gable and eave trim, and flat-stock door and window casings. The centered front entry has a metal-framed glass door and is flanked by modern single-pane horizontal display windows. The gable has two modern one-over-one windows, and at the left end of the south elevation, there is a modern horizontal display window. The dormer has paired one-over-one windows, and there are paired one-over-one windows at the left end of the front elevation of the ell and the north gable wall of the ell. The modern porch has an asphalt-shingled shed roof, Tuscan columns, and a wood railing with turned balusters.

The main block of the building was constructed sometime between 1852 and 1856, and is in excellent condition. Greek Revival features include the front-gable orientation and full

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entablature. Historically, it had two-over-two windows, four-pane display windows flanking the front door, and a Queen Anne porch with turned posts. The rear wing was added sometime between 1891 and 1896, and the ell was added and the porch and windows were replaced in the late twentieth century.

The building has always served as a store, and was one of Bennington village's longest running stores, serving as a grocery store for at least 100 years. It was constructed as the William Oatman grocery store. Oatman and his wife Betsey lived in the Federal style house that once stood just north of the store (demolished in 1999, #36 of the original National Register nomination). By the 1860s, the Oatmans' son Abram had taken over the store, and he and his wife Esther lived in the house. After Abram's death in the 1870s, the store was taken over by Daniel S. Packard. Sometime between 1901 and 1904, the store was taken over by Thomas Morrissey. The Morrissey store remained open until the 1950s. Later uses include an appliance and farm machinery store operated by Jim Nelson, a Montgomery Ward catalogue store, and the Bennington Gallery, which sold crafts and plants. The latter business operated in the 1960s and 1970s and included a greenhouse that stood north of the store.

16A. Storage/Garage Building, c. 1922, 1979, non-contributing

This two-story wood frame building is located east of the store, on Pleasant Street. It faces south and has a concrete foundation, clapboard siding at the front elevation and novelty siding at the side elevations, and a front-gable open-eave overhanging asphalt-shingle roof. There is a shed roof supported by knee braces spanning the first story of the front gable wall. Architectural trim includes flat-stock cornerboards, gable rakes and eave cornices, and flat-stock window and door casings. The front entry is at the right edge of the gable wall and has a metal-framed glass door. To the left of this are two Chicago windows, and there is a Chicago window centered on the second story. The west elevation has a small projection at the first story supporting a modern porch and a modern door at the right edge. The east elevation has irregularly-spaced one-over-one windows.

The building was constructed sometime between 1921 and 1925 as a storage building and historically had pressed tin siding imitating concrete block. The exterior finishes and window and door openings date to 1979. The building is non-contributing due to these alterations. The building was originally used by the Morrissey store, and was converted to a garage by 1946. It

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was reportedly used as a garage for the adjacent fire house (#17). Since 1979, the building has been the restaurant called Your Belly's Deli.

**17. Spartan Engine Company/Stark Hose Company, 102 Pleasant St., 1851/c. 1890/c. 1985,  
contributing (#39 of original district)**

This two-story Second Empire fire house is located on the north side of Pleasant Street. It has a very small setback from the street, and an apple tree at the southeast corner. The building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, and three sections; the two-story Second Empire main block, a 1-1/2 story rear wing, and a one-story shallow front projection surmounted by a Queen Anne porch.

All three sections have clapboard siding and fieldstone foundations. The two bay by two bay main block has a slate concave Mansard roof, a scrolled bracket cornice, and regularly-spaced two-over-two wood windows at the side elevations. The second story of the front elevation has regularly-spaced window openings with peaked molded lintelboards and Queen Anne windows. The second-story full-façade porch has turned posts, scroll-sawn brackets, cyma blocks lining the undersides of the lintels, and a wood railing with rectangular balusters. A modern pipe railing is atop the wood railing. The front projection has cyma blocks at the undersides of the flat-stock cornice, a modern glazed garage door, and a modern wood-framed glazed pedestrian door. The rear wing has a front-gable slate roof with boxed cornices and regularly-spaced two-over-two wood windows.

The rear wing was constructed in 1851 as a fire house, and historically had a hose tower. The Second Empire section and porch were added about 1890, and the porch was originally two stories. The front projection took the place of the first story of the porch in the 1980s. The building is in excellent condition, and is a good example of a nineteenth-century fire house, and an unusual example of a Second Empire fire house with a porch. Second Empire features include the Mansard roof, bracketed cornice, and peaked lintelboards, and Queen Anne features include the turned posts, scrolled brackets, cyma blocks of the porch and the Queen Anne windows.

The first occupant of the fire house was the Spartan Engine Company No. 1, which along with the Protection Engine Company No. 2 were Bennington's first fire companies. They were formed in 1851, two years after the Bennington Fire Department was incorporated. In 1871, a

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Silbury steam engine was purchased and the Spartan Engine Company became the General Stark Steamer Company. (Another account says the name change took place in 1887.) In 1917, Bennington began purchasing motorized vehicles, including three combination hose and chemical trucks. One of these went to the Stark Company. The fire house closed in the 1990s. In 1999, it was rehabilitated by the Vermont Arts Exchange of Bennington, and since then it has been living space and a studio for artists.

**18. Bottum & Torrance Mill Office, 126 North Street, c. 1902, moved 1987, non-contributing**

This two-story wood frame Colonial Revival building is located on the west side of North Street. It sits on a small lot and has a small setback from the street. The three bay by three bay symmetrical building has a square footprint, concrete foundation, clapboard siding, and a steep pyramidal slate roof with boxed cornices. There is a small entry porch centered on the front elevation, and an exterior stairway at the south elevation. Architectural trim includes a delicate entablature, delicate corner pilasters, tapered pilasters at the rear of the porch, flat-stock peaked window and door lintelboards, and beveled window and door casings. The porch has a hipped slate roof, square tripartite columns, and side wood railings with thin balusters. The centered front entry has a paneled wood door with a square upper light. The first story has regularly-spaced paired one-over-one wood windows, and the second story has regularly-spaced individual one-over-one wood windows.

The building was constructed sometime between 1902 and 1906 about a half mile away, at the northeast corner of West Main Street and Mill Street (Mill Street is two streets west of North Street). It originally had a raised basement with a fieldstone underpinning, and the porch had fieldstone cheek walls. The building was moved to this location in 1987 and is in very good condition, with no major alterations except for the required new foundation. Colonial Revival features include the symmetry, square footprint, pyramidal roof, architectural trim, and regularly-spaced one-over-one windows. It is a good example of a Colonial Revival building, and has the appearance of a Four Square type, with the exception of the centered doorway and center stairhall. Due to its move in the recent past to a new setting, it is not a contributing building.

The building was constructed as the office of the Bottum & Torrance mill, which was established in 1902. It had originally been the Unity Collar & Cuff Company of North Bennington, which was reorganized as Bottum & Torrance. They produced ladies' and mens' linen collars and cuffs

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and a laundry machine called a seam dampener, and later added shirt waists, sheets and pillowcases, and hosiery to their products.

The mill complex had started in the 1830s as the Asahel Booth mill, which manufactured cotton wadding. In the 1840s, chintz was also produced here by Harrington, Robinson, et al, and later Booth converted it to a grist mill. In the late 1850s, the grist machinery was moved to a mill on North Street (#27), and the subject mill was used by both Rockwood & Co. and George Bradford and Sons to produce knit goods. In the 1870s, the mill was used as a shoddy mill by S.S. and M. Fisher, who in the 1880s just used it for storage. In 1890, the Campbell Knitting Mills purchased the property, and produced underwear there, until selling it to Bottum & Torrance.

Bottum & Torrance closed in 1940, and for a short time the site was used by Ben-Mont Papers, Inc. In 1952, the Thompson Manufacturing Company bought the property, and produced textiles. It closed in 1985, when it was the last textile mill in Bennington. The church members of the St. Francis de Sales, located to the east, did not want the mill complex next door any more, and the Town wanted the intersection realigned, so the mill was razed in 1986. The subject office building was acquired by the Fraternal Order of Eagles and moved in 1987. In the early 1990s, it was the Thompson Mill Antiques Center, and is now an insurance office.

The North Street site was previously the location of a large two-story brick block that had been constructed in 1901. From the 1930s to the 1970s, it was the location of one of three A&P's in the village, and was the headquarters of the Fraternal Order of Eagles from the 1930s to about the 1960s, when the FOE moved to its current site up the street (#23).

**19. New York Market, 128-130 North Street, c. 1880, c. 1910, contributing (#17 of original district)**

This two-story wood frame commercial block is located on the west side of North Street at the south end of a row of attached commercial blocks that abut the sidewalk, and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. The building has a flat roof, a wooden storefront, synthetic siding elsewhere, flat-stock corner posts, and a molded wood cornice and flat-stock frieze. Above the cornice, there is a ½ story that is blank except for louvered vents. The storefront has an entablature, a wide recessed doorway with a modern door and an opening defined by square posts, and non-matching single-pane display windows, some with paneled skirts, some without. The second story has two sets of paired modern casement windows.

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The building was constructed as a 2-1/2 story structure no later than 1880; it is possible that the original structure dated back to the 1850s or earlier. The gable-roofed attic was changed to a flat roof sometime between 1906 and 1912, which explains the awkward appearance of the attic story. The building historically had clapboard siding, which was covered with synthetic siding after 1980, and paired one-over-one windows in the locations of the casement windows, which were replaced in the late 1970s.

In 1880, the building housed the New York Market. It was later a billiard hall, then from around 1890 to 1900 was the printing office of the weekly Bennington Reformer newspaper. It also served as a tailor shop, restaurant, barber shop, liquor store, clothing shop, and the Fienberg Brothers clothing shop before the Fienberg building was constructed on Main Street in 1929 (#53).

**20. House/Veterans of Foreign Wars Clubhouse, 137 North St., c. 1850, c. 1985,  
contributing (#34 of original district)**

This 2-1/2 story Greek Revival building is located on the east side of North Street. There are paved parking lots associated with the building to both the north and south. There is an ell that is set back and projects south from the south elevation of the main block. The front-gable sidehall-plan main block has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a fieldstone foundation, synthetic siding, and an asphalt-shingle roof with boxed cornices. There is an exterior concrete block chimney near the right end of the north elevation, and a full-façade shed-roofed overhang supported by knee braces at the front gable wall. The main block has a deeply recessed entry with a modern metal door, and regularly-spaced window openings with one-over-one replacement windows. Architectural trim is concealed by the siding, but the pedimented gable remains evident. The ell has synthetic siding and a side-gable asphalt-shingle roof, and a centered modern metal door flanked by small awning windows.

The building was constructed no later than 1852, and possibly as early as the 1830s. It originally had Greek Revival trim such as a pedimented gable, large corner pilasters, entablature, and six-over-six windows. These were covered/replaced in the late twentieth century. The ell was constructed sometime between 1980 and 1986. The building is a borderline contributing historic resource due to the alterations. The building was originally a dwelling, until about 1950 when the VFW converted it to a clubhouse.

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The parking lots replaced three historic buildings at 129, 133 and 145 North Street. A c. 1850 1-1/2 story front-gable building stood just south of the VFW until about 1990 (#35 of the original National Register nomination), and an early nineteenth century side-gable Federal style dwelling stood just south of this (#36 of the original National Register nomination). The latter was the longtime home of at least two generations of the Oatman family, which operated the store to the south (#16), and for most of the twentieth century it was a guest house until it was demolished by the VFW in 1999. North of the VFW, there was a c. 1850 1-1/2 story front-gable building that was demolished in the late twentieth century (#33 of the original National Register nomination).

**21. Lundergan's Restaurant/Marra's Shoe Service, 132 North Street, c. 1890, contributing (#18 of original district)**

This two-story wood frame Italianate commercial block is located on the west side of North Street in the middle of a row of attached commercial blocks that abut the sidewalk. The symmetrical building has a storefront of T-111 plywood siding, a second story with clapboard siding, and a flat roof. There is a molded wood cornice supported by scrolled brackets over a scallop-edged friezeboard. The storefront has paired metal-framed single-pane display windows over a T-111 skirt, flanked by recessed entries. The left entry has a modern metal door and the right entry is boarded up. At the second story, there are three two-over-two wood windows.

The building was constructed sometime between 1885 and 1891, and is in fair condition. The bracketed cornice and two-over-two windows are Italianate features. The storefront has been completely altered, probably during the 1970s. The first business in the building was Lundergan's Restaurant, which was operated by William Lundergan. It closed sometime between 1901 and 1906, when the building became a pool hall. Since about 1930, the building has been the home of Marra's Shoe Service.

**22. The Ladies Bazaar/Tailor, 136-142 North Street, c. 1892, contributing (#19 of original district)**

This three-story wood frame Italianate commercial block is located on the west side of North Street within a row of attached commercial blocks that abut the sidewalk. It has two modern storefronts, clapboard siding, and a flat roof. The left half of the building and the right half are different in appearance, but share a flat-stock projecting roof cornice, and a denticulated molded storefront cornice.

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The cornice of the left half is adorned with scrolled brackets at each end, and modillion blocks and dentils over a layered frieze. The scrolled brackets rest on pilasters, and there is also a central pilaster; all three pilasters have Corinthian capitals and paneled shafts, and terminate at the storefront cornice. Between the pilasters, the second story bays are filled with wide paired one-over-one wood windows that share a molded denticulated cornice. The windows have flat-stock casings and paneled bases. Each bay of the second story has a wide one-over-one wood window. The cornice of the right half is adorned with scrolled brackets at each end and a bracketed frieze. The second and third stories each have two one-over-one wood windows with flat-stock casings.

Each storefront has a modern paneled door at its right edge that leads to the upper stories. The left storefront has a recessed center doorway with a modern wood-framed glazed door flanked by metal-framed single-pane display windows over paneled skirts. The right storefront has a recessed center doorway with a modern wood-framed glazed door flanked by full-height metal-framed single-pane display windows.

The building was constructed sometime between 1891 and 1896 and is in very good condition. The bracketed cornice is an Italianate feature. The pilasters and window configuration of the left half appear to date to the twentieth century, and the storefronts date to the late twentieth century. The left half of the building was the dry and fancy goods store called "The Ladies Bazaar." It was first operated by Lizzie Gay, and taken over by Margaret M. Leonard in 1893. The north half of the building was a tailor shop, possibly operated by Nathan Levin before he moved up the street in 1921 (#25). The Ladies Bazaar closed by 1900, and this side of the building was the Bennington Sanitary Laundry Company from then until about 1920.

**23. Store/Fraternal Order of Eagles, 144 North Street, c. 1920/c. 1965, non-contributing  
(#20 of original district)**

This two-story wood frame building is located on the west side of North Street at the north end of a row of attached commercial blocks that abut the sidewalk. The symmetrical building has a flat roof and aluminum siding, except for the first story of the front elevation, which has brick veneer. Within the brick, "FOE" is spelled out in glass blocks on both sides of the recessed center doorway. The second story has two squat one-over-one vinyl windows with false muntins.

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The building was constructed sometime between 1912 and 1921, and was completely altered in the 1960s to the point that the original appearance is not discernible. It is in very good condition. At first, there were two stores in the building, a second hand store and a dry goods store. By 1925, it was one store with no party wall, and was the home of Harry Noone's clothing store. Sometime between 1956 and 1977, the Fraternal Order of Eagles moved into the building from their previous home down the street where they had been since the 1930s (in the location of #18), and remodeled the building.

**24. Bennington Coop Savings and Loan, 155 North Street, c. 1985/1999, non-contributing**

This large 2-1/2 story wood-frame Neo-Colonial Revival bank is located on a large lot on the east side of North Street. It has two sections, one is a main block and the other is a side wing that is almost as large as the main block. Together they form a modified rectangular footprint that is parallel to the street. It has a large setback from the street and there are paved parking lots to the north and south, plus a covered drive-through at the north end. The side-gable building has a concrete foundation, a clapboard-sided front elevation and brick veneer gable walls, and asphalt-shingle roofs with boxed cornices. The symmetrical main block has a centered two-story entrance pavilion, and there are four regularly-spaced gabled dormers at the front roof slope. The building has regularly-spaced individual and paired one-over-one windows with false muntins. The entry pavilion has double-leaf French doors with sidelights and transoms, and the second story has regularly-spaced individual windows.

The original section of this building was constructed about 1985. It was a one-story symmetrical Neo-Colonial Revival brick veneered structure. In 1999, it was raised to two stories, expanded to the south, and the original façade was covered, making the original building unrecognizable. The original building was constructed as the Bennington Coop Savings & Loan, which had been established in 1917 by prominent local businessmen Hiram Hall and William Wills. Before moving to this location, the bank was located at the northeast corner of Main Street and North Street (#39), then in the Winslow Block (#37), and then it moved into the Samuel Brown foundry to the north (#27). The 1980s bank was built in the location of Samuel Brown's house, and the parking lot to the north was the location of another nineteenth century house (#31 of original National Register nomination). After the 1999 renovation, the bank's name was changed to the Bank of Bennington.

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**25. Levin's Tailor Shop/King's Shoe Repair, 164 North Street, 1921, contributing (#21 of original district)**

This two-story wood frame detached commercial block is located on the west side of North Street. It abuts the sidewalk and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, clapboard siding, a flat roof, a storefront, and a two-story rear wing. Architectural trim includes a bracketed roof cornice, a molded cornice over a friezeboard above the storefront, and flat-stock window casings. At the right edge of the front elevation, there is an entry that leads to the second story staircase. It has a molded cornice and an Italianate wood door with a pair of round-arched vertical windows over panels. The rest of the elevation is the symmetrical storefront, which has a deeply recessed entry, and splayed full-height single-pane display windows with single-pane transoms and short paneled bases. The display window wraps around to the south elevation. The wood door has a single-pane large vertical light. Centered above the storefront, there are two paired modern one-over-one wood windows. The north elevation has one two-over-two window, and the south elevation of the wing has regularly-spaced one-over-one windows.

The building was constructed in 1921, probably with different fenestration and possibly a different storefront. It was built as Nathan Levin's tailor shop, which was probably moved from a location farther south on North Street (#22). Since 1958, it has been the location of King's Shoe Repair. This business had been started in the Cone Block on Main Street (#51) in 1936 by Archie King. After the move to North Street, it was operated by brothers Tony and Dominick Napolitano. Dominick retired in the 1960s, and the building remains owned by Tony.

**26. Adams, Enos, House, 168 North Street, c. 1835, c. 1880, contributing (#22 of original district)**

This small 1-1/2 story wood frame vernacular Greek Revival style house is located on the west side of North Street. It has a small setback from the street and is in close proximity to the adjacent commercial buildings. The house has a main block, a rear wing, and a side wing to the south. They all have rectangular footprints oriented perpendicular to the street. The side wing spans the south eaves side of the front gable sidehall-plan main block. The house has a stone foundation, clapboard siding, and the main block has a front-gable slate roof with boxed cornices. The wings have metal shed roofs.

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Architectural trim includes flat-stock gable and eave cornices and cornice returns, gable rakes with bed moldings, friezeboards, cornerboards, and flat-stock window and door casings. The front elevation of the main block has a modern bay window with a hipped standing-seam metal roof and multi-pane fixed windows, and a six-panel wood door. The gable has two small one-over-one wood windows. The north elevation has irregularly-spaced one-over-one windows. The front elevation of the side wing has modern paired one-over-one windows with false muntins, and a six-panel wood door. The south elevation has irregularly-spaced one-over-one windows.

The house was constructed about 1835 and is in good condition. Greek Revival features include the front-gable orientation and sidehall plan. The side wing is not original, but dates to no later than 1885. The bay window and paired window at the front of the side wing date to the late twentieth century. The paired window replaced a single-pane store display window.

The house was probably constructed for Enos Adams, who established an industrial complex behind the house in the 1830s. By the 1850s, the subject house was occupied by Enos Adams, Jr., and by the 1870s, it had become an office for the Enos Adams Co. Sometime between 1921 and 1925, the house/office was converted to a store, and in 1927, Dr. John D. Lane occupied the house as his home and office. The building was converted back to a store by the 1950s, and is now an optometrist's office.

The Enos Adams Co. first operated a tannery, which Adams later converted to a pottery and a factory for grinding quartz for the manufacture of porcelain ware. About 1865, Enos Adams & Co. started manufacturing steam and water wheel governors. By the end of the nineteenth century, the company was also producing mop sticks, wooden bowls, cotton batting and lumber. The company also established a soap factory on County Street. About 1905, the business closed, and the factory buildings were converted to a wagon shop and a garage. The Catamount Company, which was a clothing stitching factory, occupied the complex from 1917 to about 1955, and then the entire complex was removed, except for the house, and is now a parking lot.

**27. Brown and Gage Foundry/Putnam Grist Mill, 169 North Street, c. 1842, contributing (#30 of original district)**

This 2-1/2 story stone Greek Revival former industrial building is located on the east side of North Street, just south of the Walloomsac River. It has a moderate setback from the street, a

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rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, and its front yard is landscaped with bushes, walkways, and trees. Driveways on each side of the building lead to a rear parking lot. The nine-bay by four bay symmetrical structure has fieldstone walls and a side-gable slate roof with boxed cornices. The north end of the ridge extends slightly to form a hood for a pulley system.

Architectural trim includes molded eave and gable trim, molded gable rakes, cornice returns, bed moldings at the eaves, a "friezeboard" made by a band of slightly projecting fieldstone, and large stone window and door lintels. The centered front entry has a modern wood door with a vertical round-arched Queen Anne light and matching sidelights, and a modern fanlight transom. At the first story of the front elevation, the right three bays are spanned by a pair of full-height tripartite multi-pane windows with wide flat-stock casings. Centered on the north gable wall are three stacked doorways with historic six-panel doors, and in the right bay of the first story, there is a modern paneled door. The rest of the building has regularly-spaced window openings with twelve-over-twelve wood units.

The building was probably constructed in 1842 and is in very good condition. Alterations are limited to the front doorway and the tripartite windows, which date to about 1978 and the 1980s, respectively. The windows replaced two garage doors that had been installed about 1940. The building is in very good condition. Greek Revival features include the symmetry, tall fieldstone frieze, molded eave and gable trim, large stone lintels, and regularly-spaced windows. The building is an excellent example of an early stone industrial building.

The building was constructed for Samuel H. Brown and his brother-in-law Gay Sanford as a foundry. Brown (1804-1887) and Resolvay Gage first produced pig iron at the site, using iron ore and ocher from beds located near the Walloomsac River. This foundry reportedly replaced one built by Brown's father and Sanford in 1811, which had burned. Brown lived in a house just south of the foundry with his wife Sarah and family (demolished after 1980).

By about 1860, the stone building was also used as a grist mill, and Col. Olin Scott had replaced Gage in the partnership. Scott was also the proprietor of the Bennington Machine Works on Pleasant Street. In 1865, he bought the Eagle Iron Foundry and Machine Shop across Main Street as well (#30). In 1867, Henry W. Putnam, one of Bennington's most important industrialists of the nineteenth century, bought the stone building as well as the factory across North Street, after Scott had consolidated his interests at the Pleasant Street site.

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Putnam manufactured light hardware at these sites, and the foundry and grist mill operations continued until the late 1880s. The building was labeled on maps and in directories from the 1860s to the 1930s as the Henry Putnam Grist Mill. After Putnam's death in 1915, his son acquired the property. The grist mill closed in 1938, and starting about 1940, was Carver's Esso Service station. Carver probably added the garage doors to the front of the building. In the late 1940s, the building was converted to the Wayside Furniture Store, and it reverted to an automobile service station in the 1950s. In 1967, Harry Eastman bought the building, and continued to operate it as an automobile garage. In 1978, the Bennington Coop Savings & Loan acquired the property and converted the building to a bank. It later expanded into a new building to the south, then moved all of its operations to the other property in 1999 (#24). The stone building is now offices for State Farm Insurance and the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging.

A building known as the "feed store" stood northeast of the stone building until it was moved to outside of the historic district in the late twentieth century. It was probably contemporaneous with the stone building, and was a long 2-1/2 story wood frame structure that sat on the bank of the river. It was first known as the Boynton Machine Shop. After Henry Putnam acquired the property, he used this building first as a planing mill, and then as a tack factory. About 1910, it was converted to storage for a fire hose cart and hoses, and then to a feed store in the 1930s. The feed store closed in 1976.

**28. John H. Moore's Crockery House, 170 North Street, 1897, contributing (#23 of original district)**

This two-story wood frame Italianate commercial block is located on the west side of North Street and is the most intact commercial building on North Street south of the Walloomsac River. It abuts the sidewalk and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and a one-story rear wing. The front elevation has wood siding scored to resemble rusticated stone, and the side elevations have aluminum siding. The flat roof includes a front parapet that is decorated with a tall ornate cornice. There is a storefront and an oriel window at the first story.

The cornice has large scrolled brackets dividing the cornice into three bays. Between each bracket, there are scrolled modillion blocks and a paneled friezeboard with a diamond center flanked by incised filigrees. The front windows at the second story have flat-stock casings and thin molded cornices. The oriel window is at the right side of the building, above the door that

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leads to the second story staircase. It has a rectangular shape, a hipped roof, and is supported by large scrolled brackets. Its molded base continues across the building as the cornice to the storefront. The storefront has a recessed center doorway flanked by splayed single-pane display windows with short paneled bases and transoms infilled with blank panels. The doorway to the storefront has a modern metal door, and the doorway to the second story staircase has a historic wood paneled door with a vertical single-pane light. At the front elevation, the regularly-spaced second story window openings have two-over-one wood windows, and there are paired units of these in the oriel window. The side elevations have irregularly-spaced two-over-one windows.

The building was constructed in 1897, and is in very good condition. Italianate features include the decorative cornice, bay window supported by scrolled brackets, and rusticated siding. The storefront may have been altered, and its door dates to the late twentieth century. There is probably clapboard siding surviving under the aluminum siding.

The building was constructed as John H. Moore's Crockery House, which sold crockery, glassware, kitchenware and hardware. About ten years later it was called the Combination Cash Store, but sold the same items. It remained this store until about the 1930s. From the 1950s to the 1980s, it was a paint store. After the Faller Music Store was demolished across the street, the business moved into this building, and is still there.

**29. Taylor's Garage, 186-188 North Street, c. 1924, contributing (#26 of original district)**

This brick industrial building is located on the west side of North Street. It has a two-story yellow brick main block, a one-story brick rear wing, and a one-story concrete block rear addition, forming a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. The symmetrical six bay by two bay main block has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, a concrete foundation with a beveled underpinning, and a flat roof with a corbelled parapet. There is a concrete beltcourse between the first and second stories, and the second story windows have concrete sills and lintels. Centered on the first story is an open garage bay that extends into the rear wing.

On each side of the garage bay, there is a full-height single-pane fixed window and a large horizontal opening with full-height paired single-pane square display windows. The window openings have leaded-glass transoms. The left transom displays a tiled sign that reads "Taylor's" and the right transom has a sign that reads "Garage." The second story has six regularly-spaced

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twenty-pane metal-framed industrial windows. Each side of the building is entered through doorways just inside the garage bay, which have wood-framed glazed doors with single-pane transoms.

The one-story rear wing is five bays wide along each side elevation. It has a concrete foundation, brick walls with parapets, a low-sloped gabled roof, and concrete window sills. There are regularly-spaced tripartite metal-framed multi-pane industrial windows. The northwest corner of the wing is connected to a corner of a building associated with the industrial complex to the north (#30). The rear addition is three bays wide along each side elevation, and has a flat roof and concrete block walls. There are regularly-spaced twenty-four pane metal-framed industrial windows.

The main block and rear wing were probably constructed in 1924, and do not appear to have had any major alterations. The rear addition was added after 1956. The building is a good example of an early twentieth century industrial resource, and is in very good condition. The building was constructed as Taylor's Garage, and operated by Walter B. Taylor. Taylor had been the proprietor of the Putnam House livery (#), which was converted to the Putnam House Garage in the 1910s. Taylor's Garage closed about 1945, and the building was converted to the Bennington Manufacturing Company, which produced Reis underwear and sportswear. In the early 1950s, this company closed and the North Radio and Liggett-Bosworth Motor Sales company moved in. This closed by the end of the 1950s. During the 1960s, the building was used as storage.

**30. Eagle Iron Works/Putnam Hardware Manufactory, 190 North Street, c. 1845,  
contributing (#28 of original district)**

This brick industrial complex is located on the west side of North Street and on the south bank of the Walloomsac River. The property stretches west to Depot Street. The complex is comprised of several attached one-story buildings that have a large setback from North Street, which line the river and are directly adjacent to the building to the south (#29). There is also a small detached building that is southeast of the attached structures (A).

The main building, which faces North Street, originally stood alone. It is twelve bays wide, symmetrical, and has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street. It is of brick masonry construction, with a side-gable roof with boxed cornices, and a four bay wide centered wall dormer. Architectural trim includes a brick corbelled cornice, wood gable and eave fascia,

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cornice returns, thin gable rakes and friezes, and stone window lintels. The front elevation has regularly-spaced vertical twenty-four pane fixed replacement windows, except for the eleventh bay, which has a blocked up door opening. The south gable wall has one window and one window opening that has been bricked up. The building is accessed via a flat-roofed addition that spans the rear elevation.

There is a square structure projecting south and west from the rear addition of the main building. It has regularly-spaced twelve-pane metal-framed industrial windows. The rest of the complex is located behind the main building. It is difficult to view these sections, but they appear to be plain one-story brick buildings with metal-framed multi-pane industrial windows.

The main building was probably constructed in the 1840s, and is an excellent example of an early brick industrial building in Bennington. The replacement of the original twelve-over-twelve windows in the late twentieth century by the CB Sports Company appears to be the only major alteration. By the 1860s, there were also two detached gable-roofed buildings behind the main building and a long narrow building lining the river that was attached to the rear of the main building. About the 1930s, the hipped-roof buildings were replaced with the extant flat-roofed brick structures, including the one that is visible from the street. The visible buildings are in very good condition.

The main building was first used as the Eagle Iron Works, which was a foundry and machine shop for the manufacture of stoves and plows operated by Lemuel Grover. Col. Olin Scott, who was Grover's foreman, entered a partnership with him in 1858, and the name was changed to the Bennington Machine Works. In 1865, he bought out Grover, and produced machinery to manufacture gunpowder. Scott also had a factory on Pleasant Street, and in 1867, he consolidated his interests into a single complex on Pleasant Street, and sold the subject property to Henry Putnam, one of Bennington's most important industrialists of the nineteenth century.

Putnam first used the site for the manufacture of water wheel governors, and then later manufactured patented light hardware products. In 1867, he bought the industrial site across the street (#27). The subject property was used for the manufacture of bottle stoppers, fruit jar tops, clothes wringers, and other light hardware and wire goods, many of which he patented. Putnam's brother Elbert was in charge of this factory. Putnam produced double pointed tacks across the street.

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The 1885 Sanborn map shows that the main building was used as a machine shop, and the other gabled buildings were used for storage. The long narrow building along the river was labeled "wire machines," and there was also a small "tinning" section. These buildings served these purposes until the 1930s, when the gabled buildings were replaced by the Bennington Brush Company, which replaced the Putnam manufactory in 1936. Bennington Brush was established by Joseph Joseph and Edgar Joly, who had acquired a defunct company called J&P Brush in 1932, and created the Bennington Brush Company. They manufactured hairbrushes, mirrors, and dresser sets, and closed in the 1980s. Since then, it has been the home of the C.B. Sports retail store.

**A. Eagle Iron Works Office, c. 1845, contributing**

This small one bay by three bay 1-1/2 story detached brick Greek Revival structure is located in the southeast corner of the property, with a moderate setback from the street. It has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, faces north, and has an ashlar stone foundation, brick masonry walls, and a side-gable slate roof with boxed cornices. Architectural trim includes molded gable and eave trim, thin molded gable rakes, cornices and cornice returns, wood window and door lintels with molded cornices, and a slightly projecting brick frieze at the cornice. Entry to the building is at the left end of the north elevation, through a paneled wood door with a large single-pane vertical light. The building has six-over-six wood windows; two to the right of the doorway, one centered on each gable wall, and two at the south elevation.

The building is probably contemporaneous with the main building, and does not appear to have had any alterations except for the replacement of the original door. The building served as an office for the industrial complex until it became the Bennington Brush Company's "machine room" in the 1930s or 1940s. By the 1950s, it was used as an office again, and is currently vacant.

**31. North Street Bridge, carries North Street over Walloomsac River, 1936, contributing**

This paneled steel girder bridge carries North Street over the Walloomsac River. It has poured concrete abutments and steel girder supports. Visible above the bridge deck are riveted steel panel beams with upper horizontal flanges. At each side of the bridge, there are sidewalks lined with steel railings with pipe rails, square balusters, and riveted buttresses.

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The bridge was fabricated by the Bethlehem Steel Company and was constructed in 1936 by Adams, Massachusetts, contractor Thomas J. Harvey & Son. It does not appear to have any alterations, and is a rare example of this bridge type in Vermont. It was also historically known as the Putnam Bridge, due to the fact that the Putnam family owned properties north and south of the bridge. It is a good example of a modest bridge fabricated by the industrial powerhouse of Bethlehem Steel, which at the time was building the Golden Gate Bridge. It replaced an 1890s bridge that was in poor condition.

**32. St. Francis de Sales Academy, 230 School Street, 1899, contributing**

This large three-story masonry Renaissance Revival school is located on the east side of North Street at the north end of the historic district. It has a very large setback from the street behind a playground, faces west, and sits just north of the Walloomsac River. Behind (east of) the school is a mid twentieth century school annex.

The main block of the symmetrical school has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street. There are two small 2-1/2 story wings at each side and one-story open entry vestibules that fill in the front corners between the main block and the wings. The school is 116' x 54' and has a rock-faced blue marble raised foundation, brick walls with blue marble trim, and an asphalt-shingle hipped roof with a six-foot overhang. There is a large hip-roofed dormer centered on the front roof slope.

Architectural trim includes oversized marble quoins, marble beltcourses above the first and third story windows and below the second and fourth story windows, marble window sills and lintels where there is no beltcourse, brick segmental arches over alternating windows at the second story, brick paneled spandrels between the second and third story windows where there are no arches, and oversized segmental arches with alternating brick and marble voussoirs above the third story windows. At the eaves there are large wood knee braces supporting wood beams that support the roof overhang and the intermediary shallow scrolled wood brackets.

The entry vestibules have large recessed segmental-arched opening with marble voussoirs. At the back of the vestibules, there are modern double-leaf metal-framed glazed doors with multi-pane transoms, which create shallow enclosed vestibules in front of additional sets of doorways, which have double-leaf wood doors with multi-pane upper lights and wood-framed multi-pane transoms.

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The front elevation of the main block has ten regularly-spaced window bays. At the first and second stories, the alternating bays have either individual or paired windows. The pairs are divided by substantial brick mullions. The basement has one-over-one windows, the first and second stories have three-over-six metal-framed replacement windows, and the third story has wood six-pane windows with three-pane round-arched transoms. Five of the third story windows have been blocked with paneling. The dormer has a triplet of horizontal multi-pane wood windows with muntins radiating out from the center of the window. The wings have their original three-over-six wood windows, and at the attic of the wings are individual windows that match those of the dormer.

The school is in very good condition and the only alterations appear to be the replacement of the original first and second story wood windows with metal-frame windows that match the original windows, and the replacement of the red slate roof. Renaissance Revival features of the building include the symmetry, raised basement, stone foundation with brick walls, stone architectural trim including oversized quoins and voussoirs, paneled spandrels between windows, the overhanging hipped roof, the hipped-roofed dormer, the regularly-spaced multi-pane windows, and the round-arched transoms.

The school was constructed in 1899 as the St. Francis de Sales Academy, and was attended by Irish Catholic students of the St. Francis de Sales Church. By the end of the nineteenth century, the congregation had grown to 1,200, and a new convent and school were needed. The church purchased the Elbert H. Putnam estate, had the school constructed on the property, and converted the house on the property into a convent. (This house stood northwest of the school and was demolished in 1978.)

Gunson & Emery of Albany, New York designed the school, the masonry was constructed by the Montpelier Construction Company, the woodworking was constructed by James Silk of Bennington, and the slate roof was installed by Seymour Wood of Bennington. According to *St. Francis de Sales: A Proud Tradition, 1854-1992*, the "most up to date technologies of the time" were used in the construction of the school, including the use of steel trusses to support the roof, a mechanical ventilating system, and a central heating system. Originally, the third story only contained one classroom and the rest of the story housed the local temperance society (FMTAB), the AOH Lodge, and the Knights of Columbus, as well as an assembly hall.

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Along with the Sacred Heart School on School Street, the St. Francis de Sales Academy was one of two parochial schools for elementary students in Bennington during most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The school opened in September 1900 and remained open for seventy years until 1970, when the school closed due to financial constraints (it was a parochial school and did not receive government assistance). The Bennington School District subsequently rented the school, and public school classes were held there. In 1974, the School District purchased the property, and it was used as the Catamount Elementary School. The 1956 Catholic High School that stands east of the Academy building is also part of the current public school complex. In 2007, the St. Francis de Sales school was closed due to the reorganization of the school district, and the property was sold to a private developer. The developer intends to convert the building into offices and condominiums following the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

**33. Knights of Columbus Council #307, 307 Main Street, 1948, contributing**

This two-story Colonial Revival brick building is located on the south side of Main Street. It is at the west end of the historic district and is attached to the building to the east. There is a five bay wide symmetrical main block with a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street and a raised basement, and a one-story rear auditorium with rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and a west wall that is askew to the main block. The building has brick veneer walls and a flat roof, and the auditorium has a poured concrete raised basement.

Architectural trim includes a dropped molded wood cornice, concrete window sills, flat brick arches, and blank wood panels beneath the first story windows. The centered entry has a six-panel wood door, 2/3 multi-pane sidelights, and a tracery transom. The regularly-spaced window openings at the front elevation have six-over-six wood units, except for the window opening above the entry, which has a tripartite window with a twenty-four pane fixed unit flanked by eight-pane casements. The basement level has regularly-spaced four-pane horizontal windows. The west elevation has an off-center paneled wood door with a multi-pane upper light, and at the second story there are six-over-six wood windows flanking a small one-over-one window. The west elevation of the auditorium has regularly-spaced tall vertical window openings. These openings have been partially blocked with paneling in the center, and have three-over-three windows at the upper level and modern single-pane paired casements at the lower level.

The Knights of Columbus building was constructed in 1948 and is in very good condition. Colonial Revival features include the symmetry, rectangular massing, raised basement, molded

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wood cornice, flat arches, centered doorway with sidelights and transom, regularly-spaced multi-pane windows, and blank panels under the windows. The building does not appear to have any alterations except for the window openings of the auditorium.

The building has always served as the home of the Knights of Columbus Council #307, which had been founded in 1898. It was constructed by Bennington general contractors Nevins-Morrissey, Inc. From about 1920 to 1946, the Knights met in a c. 1845 Greek Revival style house on the same site. This house was built for Luther Graves of Root & Graves, who established the blacksmith shop on South Street (#2) and along with Root, established the First National Bank of Bennington across the street (#35). The house was moved to Harrison Avenue to make way for the new building. From 1899 until moving to the Main Street location, the Knights of Columbus occupied a hall on the third story of the St. Francis de Sales Academy (#32).

**34. Bennington Garage, 324 Main Street, 1920, contributing (#9 of original district)**

This detached brick industrial building is located on the north side of Main Street at the west end of the historic district. It abuts the sidewalk and has a paved parking area to the east. The building has a two-story main block and a one-story rear wing. The main block has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, and the wing has a modified rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street with an angled east elevation.

The symmetrical main block has a concrete foundation, brick walls, and a flat roof with a parapet. The two-bay center pavilion terminates in a shallow peak that rises above the parapet. There are irregularly-spaced pilasters and corner pilasters that rise above the parapet, corbelled cornices, a concrete coping at the parapet, concrete window sills and lintels, and concrete bands on the pilasters at the level of the sills and lintels and above the two front entries that flank the center pavilion.

The first story of the front elevation is completely glazed between the pilasters. The center pavilion has a full-height opening infilled with paired single-pane metal-framed vertical windows above opaque panels and a metal-framed glazed door, this tripartite is surmounted by a bank of opaque transoms. Flanking the center pavilion are narrow bays with metal-framed glazed doors with opaque transoms. The outer bays of the first story have full-height openings infilled with two sets of paired single-pane metal-framed square windows with opaque skirts and opaque

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transoms. This pattern wraps around one bay of the side elevation, with paired sets of this type. The rest of the building (including the wing) has regularly-spaced full-height individual window openings with metal-framed six-pane windows comprised of four-pane fixed lights over two-pane awnings.

The entire building was constructed in 1920, with multi-pane metal-framed industrial windows. The windows were replaced in 1995 during a comprehensive rehabilitation of the building. The building was constructed as the Bennington Garage for proprietor Earl W. Williams. Williams had opened the first Bennington Garage in 1913, in a c. 1895 brick livery building that once stood at the rear of what is now the side parking lot. The new garage was substantially larger, and had more visibility from the street. (The livery, as well as the old hotel in front of it, were removed when the new garage was built). In 1914, Williams was selling Dodge, Hudson, Nash, and Saxon automobiles, and Federal Trucks. In the new building, he sold and serviced vehicles. By 1941, the Bennington Garage added wholesale parts to its business, and by the late 1950s had dropped automobile sales and servicing. In 1995, the building was rehabilitated and converted to the Community College of Vermont.

**35. First National Bank of Bennington, 332 Main Street, 1868, contributing (#10 of original district)**

This three-story brick Italianate building is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk, is attached to the building to the east (#36), and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. The three-bay wide building has a stone foundation and an ashlar stone beveled underpinning at the front elevation, brick masonry walls, and a flat roof. An interior corbelled brick chimney rises from the west wall, and a stone stairway with stone cheek walls projects onto the sidewalk.

The left two bays of the front elevation contain a storefront, and the right bay contains a doorway that leads to the interior staircase. The three bays and corners are defined by full-height brick pilasters, except for the second pilaster, which terminates above the center of the storefront. The building is dominated by a large, overhanging ornate cornice. It has a semicircular pediment with scrolled brackets in the center bay, a molded upper cornice supported by four large paired scrolled incised brackets, intermediary smaller paired brackets, a filigree friezeboard with a bed molding, a flat-stock architrave with a molded abacus, and cyma reversa modillion blocks lining a single-withe band of brick at the bottom of the cornice. The regularly-spaced segmental-arched

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window and door openings have ornate segmental-arched label molds with a garland decoration and Corinthian impost blocks, and molded window sills. The second story sills also have carved consoles, and the doorway label also has a keystone. The first story has a matching cornice, with four paired scrolled brackets, and a molded cornice and filigree friezeboard.

The modern storefront is symmetrical and has thick flat-stock mullions that define a center doorway flanked by single-pane full-height display windows, all with transom windows. The storefront doorway has a wood-framed glazed door, and the other doorway has a tall six-panel historic door. The window openings have segmental-arched two-over-two wood windows. The first story of the west elevation has two two-over-two windows, and the second and third stories each have one six-over-six window.

The building was constructed in 1868 and is in very good condition. Italianate features include the ornate overhanging cornices with scrolled brackets, the decorative label molds, and the segmental-arched windows. The storefront is the only alteration to the building; it dates to 1996 and replaced a mid twentieth century storefront. The building originally did not have a storefront; the first and second bays had two windows that matched the second and third story windows, but had round arches instead of segmental arches. The building was rehabilitated in 1996 according to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

The building was constructed as the First National Bank of Bennington, and was the second national bank to be established in Vermont. The bank was founded by Henry Root and Luther Graves, local merchants of tinware and glassware. Graves was the bank president and Root was the vice president. The bank remained in the building until a new bank was constructed nearby (#38) in 1931. Later occupants of the building included a restaurant, Suburban Propane, and art and home furnishings stores.

**36. Office/Katie Cleaver Jewelry Shop, 334 Main Street, c. 1950, contributing (#11 of original district)**

This narrow two-story concrete block building is attached to the building to the west (#35). It abuts the sidewalk and has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and a flat roof. The first story is spanned by a storefront, and the second story has vertical-board siding. The storefront projects as a semicircular flat-roofed bay and has a single-pane curved display

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window over a vertical-board skirt and a wood-framed glazed door. The second story has a centered one-over-one window.

The building was constructed sometime between 1946 and 1956. It originally had a square pent roof that projected over the storefront, and clapboard siding at the second story. It was originally an office building, and was the office of the Charles G. Harte insurance and real estate agency from 1964 to 1974. For the past thirty years it has been Katie Cleaver's jewelry and metalware shop.

**37. A.H. Winslow Block, 335-343 Main Street, c. 1894, c. 1907, c. 1923, contributing**

This three-story brick two-section commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk, is attached to the building to the west, and is in close proximity to the building to the east. Each section has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, brick walls, and a flat roof. The east section is a symmetrical five bay wide Italianate structure with a one-story front projection and brick masonry walls. The west section is asymmetrical, has brick veneer walls, and is flush with the front wall of the projection of the other section.

The east section has a geometrical corbelled cornice and stone-capped brick pilasters defining each bay, which terminate at the brick imposts of the round-arched brick window openings at the third story. The second story window openings have segmental arches. The front elevation has regularly-spaced two-over-two wood windows and the third story windows have round-arched upper sash.

The front projection has a flat roof, a corbelled cornice, brick corner piers, and a molded metal enframing around the modern continuous symmetrical storefront. The two shops have metal-framed glazed doors and windows and paneled skirts under single-pane display windows. The center of the ensemble is a display window; this is flanked by double-leaf doors with single-pane transoms, and at the outer bays there are wide horizontal display windows. There is also a blank signboard spanning the ensemble.

The west section is asymmetrical and has a corbelled brick cornice. It is dominated by a full-height off-center opening with a molded metal enframing, which wraps around the storefront and the second and third story window openings. Each story of the opening is divided by a metal band. The symmetrical modern storefront has a tall blank signboard, a double-leaf center door

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with transoms, and single-pane display windows above blank skirts. Within the enframing, the second story is spanned by a bank of three full-height metal-framed single-pane windows, and the third story is blocked up with wood paneling. At the left bay of this elevation, there is a modern metal-framed glazed door with an opaque transom, wood paneled reveals, and a concrete lintel, and above this at the second and third stories there are one-over-one wood windows with concrete lintels.

The east section of the building was constructed without the front projection about 1894. Its first story originally had brick piers defining a centered entry leading to the interior staircase, and two storefronts each with left-hand entries and full-height eight-pane display windows. The west section was constructed as a detached building, without the east bay, about 1907. The buildings were connected sometime between 1921 and 1925, which is also when the front projection was added to the east section and a warehouse was added to the rear of the west section. The storefronts appear to have been replaced in the mid twentieth century. The third story of the west section originally had a bank of four multi-pane metal-framed industrial windows; it is possible that they survive behind the wood paneling. Italianate features of the east section include the arcaded corbelled cornice, and round-arched and segmental-arched window openings. The building is a good example of late nineteenth century and early twentieth century commercial blocks, and the large glazed opening of the west section is an unusual feature.

The east section of the building appears on the 1894 map of Bennington. The building is known as the A.H. Winslow Block, and was reportedly built for him. However, he would have only been eighteen years of age at the time, so it is unlikely that he was responsible for the construction of the east section of the building. He also did not occupy the building after its construction; the 1896 Sanborn map shows that the building had two stores at the time; one was the National Express Office (which was run by J.H. Warren), and the other was vacant. That same year, A.H. Winslow is listed in the town directory as the accountant for Tiffany & Sons and the Bennington Bicycle Co., neither of which was at the subject location. By 1900, Alfred Winslow had become a bicycle dealer, but was probably not in this location because the 1901 Sanborn shows that the building was still the National Express office and a vacant space. A 1904 photos shows that the left storefront was occupied by Winslow's Bennington Bicycle Company, and the right storefront was occupied by the American Express/National Express Company. Winslow opened a hardware store in the building before the 1906 Sanborn map was surveyed, and probably was responsible for the construction of the west section, which took place shortly thereafter.

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The 1908 town directory lists three businesses at this location, so the west section had probably been constructed by then. These businesses were Winslow's hardware store and his Bennington Bicycle shop, and the American Express/National Express office. Sometime between 1921 and 1925, when Winslow connected the buildings, he created one large hardware store that occupied both buildings. The A.H. Winslow Hardware store remained in operation until 1967, when it was purchased by Norman Greenberg, who had started his own hardware store just west of the historic district. He converted it into a warehouse for his business, and except for the storefronts, it remains as this use.

**38. First National Bank of Bennington #2, 338 Main Street, 1931, contributing (#13 of original district)**

This two-story Neo-Classical Revival building is located at the northwest corner of Main Street and North Street. It abuts the sidewalk of both streets, and has an angled corner facing the intersection. The symmetrical building has four bays along each elevation, marble veneer walls with a parapet, marble ornamentation, a flat roof, and the entry is in the angled corner. The parapet has a molded coping, and beneath the parapet there is a molded denticulated cornice over a frieze that is lined with coin medallions and the inscription "First National Bank" at each elevation. On the parapet facing the corner, there is the inscription "Commerce has made all winds her messenger, all peoples her servants." The tops of the outer bays of each elevation also have panels with swags.

The entry is within a large round-arched enframingent with a scrolled keystone and circle decorations at each voussoir. Within this enframingent, the doorway has an eared architrave frame surmounted by an entablature comprised of scrolled consoles supporting a denticulated molded cornice and a frieze of a repeating circular design. Above this, within the tympanum of the arch, there is a carved floral design around an oculus containing a clock.

The window above the entry has a molded sill supported with scrolled consoles. There are regularly-spaced full-height window openings; between each story there is a sheet metal tripartite spandrel and a molded metal window sill. Beneath the window openings of the long elevations, there are paneled skirts. The entry has a metal-framed glazed door with sidelights and a single-pane transom. All of the windows are metal-framed. The first story windows are twelve-pane vertical units, with large center panes and small outer panes, and the second story windows are six-pane units, with vertical lower panes and horizontal upper panes. The window above the

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entry matches the second story units. There is also a metal-framed door with a transom at the left end of the south elevation.

The building was constructed in 1931 and does not appear to have had any alterations except for the replacement of the original front door. Neo-Classical Revival features include the symmetry, flat roof, parapet, marble walls and ornamentation, denticulated cornice, coin medallions, panels with swags, round-arched highly ornamented entry, and regularly-spaced large windows. The building is in excellent condition and is an excellent example of a public Neo-Classical Revival building.

The building was constructed as the second First National Bank of Bennington, replacing the 1868 bank that stands to the west (#35). Sometime before 1977, after a long series of mergers with other Vermont banks, the Vermont National Bank was established with a branch in this location. In 1999, Vermont National Bank merged with Chittenden Bank. This bank already had a branch across the street (#40), so the subject bank closed and was sold to a private owner. Since then, it has been an art gallery and store.

**39. Harte Block, 400-18 Main Street, 1961, 1968, 1974, 1977, non-contributing (#40 of original district)**

This one-story commercial block is located at the northeast corner of Main Street and North Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is comprised of several sections built at different times. All of the sections are of wood frame construction and have flat roofs and a variety of wall veneers. There is one store at the corner, and along Main Street there is a bank and four storefronts.

The four storefronts at the east end of the Main Street elevation are similar in appearance and share a vertical-board signboard. The stores are separated by narrow brick piers, and have brick skirts under metal-framed single-pane display windows and deeply recessed entries. All but the second storefront have centered entries with metal-framed glazed doors. The second storefront has an asymmetrical doorway. The easternmost two stores were constructed in 1961 by the Bennett & Ryan Construction Company. The first stores there were Dragon's Shoes and the Bennington Bookshop. Dragon's Shoes had been established about 1935 in the Park/Drysdale Block (#10). The Bennington Bookshop had been established across the street about 1928. It is now located in the Ritchie Block (#59). In 1968, the other two storefronts were added to this section of the block. One of these was Bird's electronics and photography equipment store.

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A brick-veneer bank building is located between the storefronts mentioned above and the store located on the corner. It has a contemporary asymmetrical design. The right section has a slight setback from the street and is a blank brick wall. The left section is set back a little further. It has a stucco finish, and above the recessed entry the wall angles bank toward the entry. Next to the entry, there is a brick projection with a blank wall and a metal-framed greenhouse type roof. This building was constructed in 1977 for the Catamount National Bank, and it is now Merchants Bank.

The store at the corner has a long elevation facing North Street, a short elevation facing Main Street, and an angled corner facing the intersection. It has stuccoed and brick veneer walls, large stuccoed pilasters defining the corner entry bay, a stuccoed pilaster dividing the west elevation in half, and a stuccoed beltcourse above the windows. The recessed entry has a wood-framed glazed door, sidelights and transom. To the left of the center pilaster, there is a single-pane vertical display window and a blocked up doorway. Between the center pilaster and the pilaster at the corner, there are three single-pane vertical display windows divided by brick mullions. Each window is over a paneled stucco base. In the Main Street bay, there is a single-pane vertical display window.

This building was constructed in 1974 and has been substantially altered. It originally had brick veneer siding and a vertical-board signboard encircling the entire building. The windows remain the same. This building was constructed as the Charles G. Harte Agency, Inc., which sold insurance and real estate. The company had been established in 1960 by Charles and Margaret Harte at their home. In 1964, they opened an office down the street (#36), and stayed there until moving into the subject building. Although the office has closed, the entire block is still owned by Margaret Harte.

This large block replaced two historic buildings. The building on the corner, in the same location as the extant corner building, was constructed in 1895 as the Bennington County Savings Bank. It was a three-story commercial block with a stone first story and brick upper stories and a flat roof. It had large brick corner piers and a tall tapered corbelled cornice. The bank had been organized in 1878 and was first located in the Park Block (#). Before it was demolished in the early 1960s, the building housed the Bennington Co-op Savings and Loan Association.

The rest of the block was occupied by a large three story brick commercial block, which had been constructed in 1892 and was known as the Opera Block. It was three-story symmetrical High

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Victorian Gothic building, nine bays wide, and had a tall corbelled cornice, paneled pilasters with large capitals, storefronts across the first story, segmental arch paired windows at the second and third stories within two-story segmental blind arches, a large square belvedere, and a large opera house wing in the rear. At the time, the stage had the widest proscenium arch outside of Boston.

The Opera Block was constructed by Henry W. Putnam, one of Bennington's most important industrialists of the nineteenth century. In 1922, the property was sold to John B. Harte. He converted the opera house to a movie theater in 1928, and renamed it the General Stark. The building burned down in 1959. The Opera Block replaced the Stark House inn, which started as a late eighteenth-century 1-1/2 story tavern, and then was later enlarged to three stories. It was a long wood-framed Italianate building with a two-story full-façade porch and large scrolled roofline brackets. In 1892, it was cut in two and moved elsewhere.

**40. Post Office/Bennington Co. National Bank, 401-5 Main St., 1845, 1886, 1960,  
contributing (#41, 42, 44 of original district)**

This three-story brick High Victorian Gothic commercial block is located at the southeast corner of Main Street and South Street. It abuts the sidewalk, and has a modified square footprint with a polygonal corner facing the intersection. There is a modern addition on the south elevation, which faces Main Street, and part of the attached building to the east that faces Main Street is now part of the property (405 Main Street). The main block has five bays along each elevation, and three bays within the polygonal corner. A one-story modern shallow projection wraps around the building.

All three sections have brick walls and flat roofs. The main section has a corbelled cornice with two layers of geometrical arcading. The regularly-spaced window openings of the second and third stories have segmental arches with stone impost blocks, stone sills, and two-over-two wood units except for the at the corner, where there are three narrow one-over-one windows. The first story projection has a flat roof, brick veneer walls, a recessed entry at the Main Street elevation with a metal-framed glazed door, and regularly-spaced vertical metal-framed single-pane windows. The original arcaded corbelled cornice of the storefronts peeks above the projection. High Victorian Gothic features of the building include the brick walls, arcaded corbelled cornice, and the polychromatic use of stone and brick.

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This building was constructed in 1886, and the upper stories have not been altered. The first story projection was added about 1955, eliminating the original storefronts that were flush with the building facades. At the Main Street elevation, there were two storefronts with cast iron pilasters and vertical single-pane display windows over paneled skirts. At the corner, the pattern continued with two pilasters dividing three windows.

The three-story brick Italianate building at 405 Main Street has a slight setback from the street, is three bays wide, and has a flat roof and a modern first story projection that is flush with the projection of the other building. It has a molded wood cornice with scrolled brackets and regularly-spaced six-over-six wood windows at the second and third stories. The brick first story projection has an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) and a vertical metal-framed single pane window with a lower awning.

The building at 405 Main Street was constructed about 1845, and the center bays of the second and third stories originally had doorways. The cornice was probably added in the late nineteenth century, and gives it its Italianate designation. The front projection was originally a mid twentieth century Moderne storefront with a sheet metal signboard and metal-framed display windows over sheet metal skirts. The existing projection probably dates to the 1970s, and originally had two recessed entries and a window in the location of the ATM.

The two-story two bay wide brick veneer south addition that faces South Street has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to South Street. The first story has a recessed entry and a paired metal-framed window with two upper vertical panes and two lower awnings. The second story has a matching window, and three small vertical single-pane windows divided by brick mullions. This section of the building was constructed in 1960. It replaced the c. 1870s three-story brick Italianate Adams Block. When it was demolished, the Adams Block had a bowling alley in the basement.

The corner building was constructed as the Bennington village post office and a retail store. The first store in the building was a jewelry store, which remained in that location until the early 1920s. In 1914, the post office moved to its new building on South Street (#8), and the Bennington County National Bank moved in. The bank had been chartered in 1878. Its first offices were in the Park Block, and then occupied the Bennington County Savings Bank building that was built in 1895 (now #39). Until about the 1930s, one half of the subject building remained a store, then the bank took over the entire building. In 1973, the County National Bank

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merged with the Chittenden Trust Company, and a branch of Chittenden opened in the building. It has remained the Chittenden Bank every since. From 1881 to 1886, the post office was located in the library building (#73), and was on North Street before that. This building replaced a structure that was the location of the village's first post office in 1848.

The section at 405 Main Street is actually the west half of a building that also includes 409 Main Street (#42). The east half was originally identical to the west half. It may have been the first brick block constructed in Bennington village, and was built for Enos Adams, who operated an industrial complex on North Street. The building was the location of many drug stores, starting in 1845, when Dr. Theodore Peck opened pharmacy here, and J.T. Shurtleff's, which operated here from 1859 until at least the 1880s. The building remained a drug store until 1962, when Carroll Drugs moved two doors down into a new building (#44).

**41. Main Street Clock, corner of Main Street and South Street, 1928, contributing (#43 of original district)**

This freestanding clock is located on the sidewalk at the southeast corner of Main Street and South Street. It is supported by a tripartite metal column, and consists of an upside-down copper pyramid base that supports the four-faced clock box with a copper enframingent, and a copper pyramidal hood with a finial. The clock was installed in 1928 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the adjacent Bennington County National Bank. The original column was replaced in the 1950s due to deterioration. It is the only freestanding clock in Bennington County.

**42. Adams Block, 409 Main Street, c. 1845, c. 1910, contributing**

This three-story brick commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street, abuts the sidewalk, and is attached to the adjacent buildings. It has brick masonry walls, flat roof, a storefront, and a third story bay window. It projects forward from the building to the west. There is a stamped tin cornice with a band of egg-and-dart design and a band of repeating swags. Above the storefront, there is a molded metal cornice. The modern storefront has a recessed centered doorway with a wood-framed glazed door and single-pane transom, and vertical single-pane display windows with transoms over brick skirts. Centered on the second story are two one-over-one windows. The bay window has a central single-pane fixed vertical window and one-over-one windows in the angled sides.

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The building was constructed about 1845 and was originally the east half of a structure that included the building to the west at 405 Main Street (#40). Both halves were originally identical to each other, with flush front elevations. It may have been the first brick block constructed in Bennington village, and was built for Enos Adams, who operated an industrial complex on North Street. The front bay of the building was added sometime between 1906 and 1912. In the mid twentieth century, the original storefront was replaced, which was recently replaced again with the extant one. From 1923 to at least the late 1970s, the storefront was occupied by Atkins Jewelry, which was changed to Atkins and Gould Jewelers in 1948. In 1977, it was the oldest jewelry store in Bennington.

**43. Charles Hawks Store, 411 Main Street, c. 1865, 1962, non-contributing**

This three-story wood frame commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street and is attached to the adjacent buildings. It is the only surviving wood frame nineteenth century building on Main Street between Route 7 and School Street. It is three bays wide and has a modern storefront, vinyl siding, and a flat roof. The storefront has fieldstone skirts, continuous metal-framed horizontal display windows, and a vertical-board signboard. At the right edge there is a doorway that leads to the interior stairway, and the storefront is symmetrical with a recessed angled doorway. The second story has three regularly-spaced one-over-one wood windows, and the third story has a center modern bay window. The cornice has been boxed in.

The building may have been constructed as early as the 1860s, and was of the Italianate style. It originally had a recessed storefront, clapboard siding, three windows at the third story, and a molded wood cornice. The storefront had two double-leaf doors and six-pane display windows. The upper stories were supported by chamfered columns. The extant appearance of the storefront dates to 1962. At that time, the upper stories were covered with "Colonial" siding (probably not the existing siding) and the third story windows were blocked up. The bay window was recently installed.

The building may have been constructed for H.H. Whitney, and was definitely the Charles A. Hawks store by the 1870s. Hawks sold ladies' and mens' furnishing goods, trunks, furniture, sewing machines, pianos and organs. The Hawks store closed in the mid 1890s. When the storefront was remodeled in 1962, it was occupied by jewelers Noveck-Shultz, Inc.

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**44. Carroll Drugs, 415-417 Main Street, 1962, non-contributing**

This one-story wood frame commercial building is located on the south side of Main Street, abuts the sidewalk, and is attached to the adjacent buildings. It has two asymmetrical storefronts of different sizes that share a vertical-board signboard and a flat roof. The left storefront is larger and has stone veneer end piers and window skirts, large single-pane metal-framed display windows, and a recessed double-leaf metal-framed glass door with vertical-board covers. The right storefront has vertical-board siding, a large metal-framed single-pane display window, and a metal-framed glazed door.

The building was constructed in 1962 and has not been altered. Carroll Drugs was the first store at the larger storefront. It moved from two doors down the street (#40). The building replaced a two-story Italianate structure that had burned down during a fire that destroyed several buildings.

**45. Four 21 Restaurant, 421 Main Street, 1962, non-contributing**

This one-story wood frame commercial building is located on the south side of Main Street and abuts the sidewalk. It is attached to the building to the west, and there is a narrow alley separating it from the building to the east. The asymmetrical building has brick veneer siding, a flat roof, a double-leaf paneled wood door with vertical multi-pane lights, and a bank of six multi-pane casement windows.

The building was constructed in 1962 and has not been altered. It has always been a restaurant, and was originally the Four 21 Restaurant, operated by George Felopulos, and then was the Four Squires restaurant before it became Carmody's about 1999. The building replaced a small one-story Italianate structure that had burned down. It had been Felopulos's fruit store called "Fruitland."

**46. Bennington Banner/Fashion Fair, 425 Main Street, 1962, 1968, non-contributing**

This two-story wood-framed commercial building is located on the south side of Main Street and abuts the sidewalk. It is attached to the building to the east, and there is a narrow alley separating it from the building to the west. The flat-roofed building has two asymmetrical storefronts of different appearances, and a second story with vertical board siding. The left storefront has a doorway on the left with a double-leaf metal door with vertical single-pane lights and a transom.

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The rest of the storefront consists of large metal-framed single-pane display windows with transoms and metal skirts. The right storefront has fieldstone veneer end piers and skirts, a recessed off-center doorway with a metal-framed glazed door, and large metal-framed single-pane display windows. Centered on the second story are three tripartite windows; each window has a horizontal single-pane fixed window flanked by casement windows.

The first story of the building was constructed in 1962 and the second floor was added in 1968. The left storefront has always been the offices of the *Bennington Banner* newspaper, and the right storefront was originally the Fashion Fair store. The *Bennington Banner* started as a weekly paper called the Bennington Evening Banner in 1840, and then in 1903 merged with the *Bennington Reformer*, which had been started in 1876. Fashion Fair was established by Samuel Needleman in 1923 on North Street. It moved to its current location on Main Street in the 1930s. In 1961, a fire destroyed this and several other buildings, and Fashion Fair moved back in after the new building was finished. It remained in this location until at least the late 1970s. This building is non-contributing due to its age.

**47. Madison Brewery, 428 Main Street, 1959, 1996, non-contributing**

This two-story concrete block Post-Modern commercial building is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the street and is attached to the adjacent buildings. The asymmetrical structure has a flat roof, a brick veneer and wooden first story, and a stuccoed second story. Above the front entry, there is a sheet-metal vertical cylindrical awning that rises above the roofline. Brick veneer piers define the edges of the building, and there are two one-story piers centered on the first story, which separate the center window bay from the rest of the elevation. The recessed front entry is centered on the right half of the elevation, and has double-leaf wood-framed glazed doors and a two-pane transom. Flanking this, between brick piers, are tall paired single-pane windows with transoms. Between the piers at the left half of the building, there are three sets of these paired windows separated by wood mullions. The second story has regularly-spaced single-pane square windows.

The building's shell dates to 1959, and is the remains of a building that burned in a 1990 fire. The façade dates to 1996. The original building had a fieldstone first story and ribbed aluminum second story, storefronts at the first storefront and six sixteen-pane metal casement windows at the second story, and was the location of Adams Clothes until the 1990 fire. The 1996

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renovation was designed by Centerline Architects of Bennington and built by Colonie Builders, Inc. This building is non-contributing due to its age.

**48. Jewelry Store, 430 Main Street, 1946, contributing**

This small, one-story wood frame commercial building is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is attached to the adjacent buildings. It has patterned brick veneer siding and a parapet with a round-arched center and concrete coping. The asymmetrical storefront has a recessed doorway with a vertical-board reveal that curves around to the storefront's large full-height metal-framed display window. A metal band separates the display window from a transom and wraps around the curved wall. The doorway has a metal-framed glazed door. The building was constructed in 1946, and the storefront dates to after 1977. It was originally a jewelry store.

**49. Evans News/Rehm-Brandt Design, 431 Main Street, 1962, 2000, non-contributing**

This two-story wood frame Post-Modern commercial building is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is attached to the adjacent buildings. It has an ashlar corian-sided first story and a stuccoed second story, and a flat roof. The corian is scored to resemble the base of a Renaissance-Revival building. The asymmetrical storefront has an Egyptian-styled doorway with pilasters that taper from top to bottom, a single-pane horizontal display window, and a paneled wood signboard. The recessed doorway has double-leaf metal-framed glazed doors. The second story has three regularly-spaced four-pane oculus windows.

The building was constructed in 1962 with a completely different façade, which was designed by Lench Associates of Winhall. It was asymmetrical, with a full-height two-story glazed section divided in three by vertical ribs, except for the right bay, which had brick veneer over the doorway. The 1962 building was first occupied by Evans News, which had been established in the early twentieth century, and is now located across the street (#50). The Post-Modern façade was installed in 2000 and designed by local architect Michael McDonough. This building replaced the four-story Paradise Restaurant building that had burned in a fire that destroyed several buildings.

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**50. Furniture Store, 434 Main Street, 1946, contributing**

This two-story concrete block symmetrical commercial block is located at the east end of a long row of buildings, and abuts the sidewalk. It has a three bay wide brick veneer façade and a flat roof. The front elevation has brick end piers, a corbelled cornice, and geometrical-patterned brick panels under the second story windows. The wood frame storefront is symmetrical and has a recessed entry flanked by paired vertical single-pane display windows with transoms and paneled bases, and a wood signboard with a segmental-arched center section. The entry has a modern metal door with a single-pane upper light, a matching sidelight, and a two-pane transom. The second story has three regularly-spaced window openings with sixteen-pane metal-framed industrial units and brick round-arched transom panels.

The left bay of the east elevation has brick veneer, and the rest is exposed concrete block with a layer of brick at every third row. The left bay resembles the front elevation, with a paired display window, signboard, and round-arched panels over a sixteen-pane industrial unit at the second story. The rest of the elevation has regularly-spaced sixteen-pane windows with concrete lintels. The building was constructed in 1946 with a different storefront. It had a deeply recessed entry, splayed display windows and no signboard. The extant storefront appears to date to the late twentieth century. The building was first used as a furniture store, and for the past ten years has been Evans News, which had moved from across the street (#49). Evans News has been a local store for at least one hundred years. From 1986 to 1998, the building was the home of Panache, a women's clothing store. This building replaced a late nineteenth-century brick building that had been William Winslow's hardware store and tin shop. When it was razed to make way for the new building, it was the location of Noveck's clothing and shoe store.

**51. Cone Block, 435-443 Main Street, 1899, 1924, contributing**

This nine bay wide two-story tan brick Art Deco commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street and is attached to the adjacent buildings. It abuts the sidewalk and has modern storefronts, brick veneer siding, and a parapet with rock-faced concrete copings. The first story has a recessed center entry that leads to the interior stairway, and four storefronts that share a tall T-111 plywood signboard. At each edge of the building, there are buttressing brick piers with rock-faced concrete ornamentation and copings. At the second story, the center bay of the building is a pavilion defined by pilasters that meet the corbelled plane beneath the segmental-arched projection above the parapet. Within the plane, there is a concrete panel with the

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inscription, "Cone Building, 1924." Centered on the left and right halves of the second story are buttressing brick piers with rock-faced concrete copings. Between each of the tops of the piers, there are horizontal brick panels with concrete ornamentation. The window openings have rock-faced concrete lintels.

At the left half of the building, the left and right storefronts share an off-center recessed entryway. The left storefront has a bank of vertical single-pane display windows, and the smaller right storefront has panels instead of windows. At the right half of the building, the storefronts match each other and as an ensemble, there are vertical single-pane display windows flanking a large recess supported by a paneled square column. The recess contains two vertical-display windows flanked by the store entries. The left entry has a metal-framed glazed door with a large sidelight, and the right entry has a modern metal door with multi-pane upper light and a matching sidelight.

The shell of the building is the remains of a three-story yellow brick 1899 building that suffered a fire. It was rebuilt in 1924 as a two-story building. The right storefronts appear to date to the mid twentieth century, and the left storefronts were remodeled in the late twentieth century. The entire storefront had first been remodeled about the 1940s, when the entire first story was Woolworth's. It had a Moderne signboard of sheet metal and grooved ends with curved edges, and a fully glazed storefront with metal-framed display windows and recessed entries. The extant metal-framed glazed doors and windows at the right half may be from this period.

The Cone Block was constructed for Williams Hawks Cone. Early occupants of the Cone Building were the Cone Studio, which had also been in the 1899 building, the F.W. Woolworth Store, which had been in the 1899 building since 1915 and remained in the extant building until 1973, the Bennington Chamber of Commerce, Bennington Office Service and Supply, Noveck Studio, Splendid Restaurant, a beauty parlor, and several business services. King's Shoe Service opened here in 1936, and then moved to North Street in 1958 (#25). By the time the Moderne storefront was added, Woolworth's was the only first story occupant. The 1899 building had been constructed by Cone's great uncle William E. Hawks, and was similar in appearance to the Ritchie Block (#59).

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**52. Methodist Church, 440 Main Street, 1833, 1858, 1906, contributing**

This large stone and brick High Victorian Gothic church is located on the north side of Main Street and has a moderate setback from the street. There is a small wooded park southeast of the building, and a parking lot behind it. The church is asymmetrical, comprised of several sections, and as a whole has a modified rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. There is a side-gabled front block that is parallel to the street, and front-gabled rear sanctuary that spans the rear of the front block. Projecting west from the southwest corner of the front block, there is a flat-roofed three-story entry tower. To the right of this, lining most of the front block, there are a wide cross-gable and a flat-roofed two-story entry tower that projects forward from the plane of the other tower and cross gable. All of these front sections are on a raised basement and have Flemish-bond brick walls. The side-gabled front block has a slate roof and parapeted gable walls. The five-bay wide rear section has fieldstone walls, a north-south roof ridge, and a slate roof.

The left tower has a flat roof, half-height stepped buttresses with stone coping at tower corners, and elaborate stone and wood ornamentation. The tower is accessed by a high flight of stone steps with brick cheek walls. The recessed entry has paneled reveals, an ogee-arched, quoined, stone surround with paneled octagonal engaged columns with crocketed pinnacles, a blind pointed-arch transom with a quatrefoil in the panel and an accolade, and double-leaf paneled wood doors. There are pointed-arch window openings at the front and west faces of the second story. They have quoined casings and a label mold, and contain stained glass windows. The third story of the tower, the belfry, has paired pointed-arch window openings in each face. They have quoined casings and label molds, and contain louvered vents. Just below the roofline, there is an ogee cornice lined with floral modillion blocks. The roofline has a molded cornice.

The cross gable has a molded stone water table, a large pointed-arch window opening, and a denticulated gable rake. The window opening has quoined casings, a label mold and stone sill, and contains a tripartite stained glass window with a quatrefoil tracery motif. The right tower is accessed by a high flight of stone steps with brick cheek walls, and has a full-height decorative panel incorporating the entryway and second story window. The recessed entry has quoined casings with a carved floral band that continues into the Tudor-arched label mold with drop finials, and a blind transom. Above the label mold and terminating at a molded cornice is a pair of spandrels. The ornamentation of the second story window is directly above this cornice, and includes quoined casings with a carved floral band that continues into the a pointed-arch label

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mold. Above the window opening, there are two panels that terminate at the roof entablature, which has a flat-stock frieze, a bracketed architrave, and a denticulated cornice. The window opening contains a tripartite stained glass window with a tracery motif.

The two right bays of the side-gable front block are visible to the right of the right tower. This section of the building has a carved stone water table, stepped buttress at the corner, regularly-spaced pointed-arched window openings with quoined casings and label molds, and a denticulated corbelled cornice. The window openings contain stained glass windows. The cross gable and side-gable block have regularly-spaced one-over-one basement windows. The west elevation of the rear section has regularly-spaced pointed arched stained glass windows, and the rear gable wall has an off-center tripartite pointed-arch stained glass window.

The church was constructed in four building periods from 1833 to 1906. The rear fieldstone sanctuary was constructed in 1833 as a 44' x 64' front-gable structure. The stone came from a quarry located between Old Bennington and Shaftsbury, and the builders were Calvin Gilson and Smith Montague. In 1858, the church was lengthened by 20' at the rear. In 1893, an unusual three-tiered telescoping Shingle-Style tower replaced the original interior front belfry. Also at this time, a Tudor style front entry vestibule was added. It was half-timbered and had a large opening at the front, side pointed arch leaded glass windows, beadboard siding, and decorative bargeboard.

All of the brick front sections were constructed in 1906, causing the removal of the Shingle-Style tower and the Tudor entry vestibule. The rear sanctuary was widened by about thirty feet (using matching fieldstone), resulting in a new roof for the entire sanctuary. The stained glass window in the front cross gable was donated by William R. Morgan in 1909. Morgan was prominent landowner in the village, who owned much of the northeastern part of village and developed it in late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The stained glass window in the right tower was donated in 1909 by William H. Bradford, who owned a large woolen factory.

The church is in very good condition and is the only ecclesiastical building in the historic district. It is an excellent example of a High Victorian Gothic building. High Victorian Gothic features include the asymmetry, towers, masonry walls, ornate stone and wood decoration, window tracery, buttresses, pointed arch windows and doorways, and stained glass.

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The first Methodist sermon in Bennington took place at the courthouse in Old Bennington in 1792. In 1827, the Bennington Methodist Episcopal Church Society was established in Bennington village. Until 1833, when the church was constructed, the meetings were held in members' homes. The building remained a Methodist Church until 2007, and it is now vacant and for sale.

**53. Fienberg Block, 445-449 Main Street, 1929, contributing**

This two-story stone-veneer Neo-Classical Revival commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the street and is attached to the adjacent buildings. The five bay wide building has two storefronts, a left-hand entry to the interior stairway, and a parapeted flat roof. The storefronts and side entry are separated by granite pilasters, and share a molded denticulated granite cornice. The second story is entirely sheathed with granite veneer and has a granite entablature with a denticulated molded cornice, carved scrolled brackets, and a molded frieze. Centered on the parapet, there is a scrolled shouldered date block with granite copings and carved scrolled decorations on the shoulders. The regularly-spaced second story window openings have molded architraves, footed sills, and carved corner blocks.

The left storefront is symmetrical and has a deeply recessed segmental-arch vaulted entryway and large continuous-glass display areas flanking the opening. The spandrel above the opening and front display windows, as well as the short window skirts, are sheathed with green marble. The right storefront is symmetrical and has a narrow recessed entry flanked by wood-framed vertical display windows over paneled skirts, and a glass-block spandrel. The side entry has a paneled wood door with a single-pane vertical light and a transom. The window openings have one-over-one wood windows.

The building dates to 1929 and is in very good condition. It does not appear to have had any alterations. Neo-Classical Revival features include the symmetry, stone veneer, entablature, carved details, pilasters, and regularly-spaced windows. The building was constructed for Fienberg Brothers, a department store established in 1919 by Charles and Harry Fienberg. At that time, the store was located at 128 North Street (#19). In 1948, the name of the store was changed to Fienberg Stores, Inc. Charles Fienberg's daughter acquired the property in 1968, and the store closed in the late twentieth century. The building replaced a 2-1/2 story front-gable Italianate commercial building that had burned in 1926.

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**54. Cook House, 450 Main Street, c. 1850, c. 1995, non-contributing**

This 2-1/2 story wood frame vernacular Greek Revival building is a detached structure on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and has a small yard to the west. The building has a front-gable main block, a 2-1/2 story rear wing, and a flat-roofed two-story wing behind this. It has a fieldstone foundation, vinyl siding, asphalt-shingle roofing at the main block, and slate roofing at the rear wing. The main block has a square footprint with a one-bay by one-bay projection from the right end of the west elevation, which creates a four-bay wide front gable wall.

The symmetrical front gable wall has a centered recessed doorway with modern doors at the back of the recess and in one side of the recess. Flanking the doorway are banks of three modern casement windows. The second story has regularly-spaced two-over-one windows. The side elevations have regularly-spaced one-over-one and two-over-two windows, and there is one modern bay window at the west elevation. The west elevation of the rear section has a one-bay porch with Queen Anne turned posts.

The building was constructed about 1850 or earlier, without the front bay of the main block. It was originally a three bay wide house with a sidehall plan and a one-bay wide front porch. Sometime between 1921 and 1925, the front bay was added, replacing the porch. In the 1990s, the vinyl siding was added, the front doorway was moved and the window openings were reconfigured. The building is non-contributing due to these alterations. Greek Revival features are limited to the front-gable orientation.

The 1852, 1856 and 1869 maps of Bennington show that the house belonged to either a J.J. or an L.L. Cook. In 1880, Harlan Page Partridge, homeopathic physician and surgeon, lived in the house and had his practice there. From 1904 to the early 1920s, the building was occupied by optician DeWitt E. Lewis, who reportedly operated the only eyeglass store in the county at the time. The building has retained its retail/service use since then. Historically, there was a detached barn behind the house. At the turn of the twentieth century, it was converted to a "marble works." It was removed sometime between 1925 and 1946.

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**55. Grand Union, 451 Main Street, 1954, c. 1995, non-contributing**

This one-story symmetrical flat-roofed commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is attached to the adjacent buildings. There are two stores with separate entryways, and a tall clapboard signboard with a denticulated cornice. The center of the storefront is comprised of a bank of four vertical single-pane display windows with fluted mullions, multi-pane transoms, and short granite-veneer skirts. On either side of this are the recessed entryways. The left entry has a centered paneled wood door with a large vertical single-pane light, single-pane sidelights over short wood skirts, and multi-pane transoms over the ensemble. The right entry has a double-leaf door that matches the other doorway, and multi-pane transoms. The outer bays of the storefronts are large vertical single-pane display windows with fluted mullions, multi-pane transoms, and short granite-veneer skirts.

The building was constructed in 1954 with a sheet metal sign panel and metal-framed display windows and metal-framed glazed doors. By the 1980s, the metal-framed storefronts had been replaced with the extant fluted window frames, multi-pane transoms, and wood doors. The signboard was replaced after 1988. Due to the drastic alterations to the building, it is non-contributing. The building was constructed as a Grand Union supermarket, and then was the M.H. Fishman department store from the 1960s to the 1980s. In the 1990s, it was the Colonial Army/Navy store, and today it is Bennington Sports and Graphics.

**56. Nichols Block, 457 Main Street, 1877, 1896, 1949, contributing**

This three-story wood frame Italianate commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is attached to the building to the west. There is a narrow alley between this building and the building to the east. The eight bay wide symmetrical building has a slightly projecting marble storefront, rusticated wood siding above this, asbestos siding at the side elevations, and a flat roof. The tall, overhanging cornice has a molded cornice supported by four large scrolled Eastlake-style brackets, smaller intermediary brackets, and a tall frieze enriched with a band of jigsaw-cut ornamentation and a band of molding. Other architectural trim includes rusticated corners and incised, peaked, labelmolds with drip moldings at the second story front windows, and a shouldered peaked lintelboard at the third story doorway.

The storefront is completely sheathed with marble veneer and has a central doorway with double-leaf metal-framed glazed doors, a transom, and wide metal-framed glazed two-pane sidelights

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that extend to the top of the transom. Flanking the doorway are horizontal single-pane display windows. The second story has alternating paired and individual two-over-two wood windows. The third story has a center doorway leading to a balcony and is flanked by flat-roofed oriel windows. The doorway contains a paneled wood door with a vertical single-pane upper light, and the balcony connects the two oriel windows and has a wood railing with square balusters and a center post with a finial. The oriel windows have rusticated bases and molded cornices and friezes, fixed two-pane windows at the front and one-over-one windows in the sides. The side elevations have irregularly-spaced two-over-two wood windows. Italianate features of the building include the bracketed cornice, oriel windows, rusticated siding, and peaked shouldered lintelboards.

The first two stories of the building were constructed in 1877, the third story was added in 1896, and the storefront was added in 1949. The original storefront was flush with the plane of the building and had a bracketed cornice and a central entry flanked by two stores; each store had a central entry flanked by four-pane storefront windows. The original cornice was reinstalled at the third story.

The building was constructed as the Nichols Department Store. In 1869, Edwin L. and Ada Nichols established the store in a building just down the street. It began as a clothing shop, and after the move into the new building, dry goods were added, as well as the first soda fountain in Vermont. It was also the first store in Vermont to sell "ready-made" dresses. The new building also included a store for F.N. Squire's jewelry and music business. The third story of the building was constructed by Walter and/or Dewey Dunham. In 1904, the Nichols's son Lester H. took over the business. He retired in 1960, and the business was carried on by Lucien Loomis and Paul Fairlee. When the Nichols Department Store closed in 1996, it was the oldest store in Bennington.

**57. Dunkin Donuts, 460 Main Street, 1972, non-contributing**

This one-story detached concrete block commercial building is located at the northwest corner of Main Street and School Street. It faces south toward Main Street and has a large setback from Main Street behind a paved parking lot, and a small setback from School Street. It has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to Main Street and a flat, false-mansard, overhanging roof. The front elevation is spanned by metal-framed display windows with metal skirts and an off-

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center doorway with a metal-framed glazed door. The windows wrap around to the side elevations, and the rear half of the side elevations have brick veneer siding.

The building was constructed in 1972 as a Dunkin Donuts, and is now a Chinese restaurant. It is non-contributing due to its age. It replaced the 1907 Colonial Revival YMCA, which was razed in 1972. The YMCA was a three-story virtually square symmetrical brick block with a rusticated masonry raised basement, two-story rear brick section, centered side chimneys, decorative raised parapet, center recessed doorway with entablature, stone flat arches with keystones, stone window sills, regularly-spaced paired six-over-six windows, brick paneled spandrels between the first and second story windows and between third story windows, and paneled and molded eave cornice under modillion blocks. This was the first architectural loss in Bennington to raise public awareness about the negative effects of the demolition of historic structures.

**58. Grocery Store/Quinlan's Drug Store, 463 Main Street, c. 1875, c. 1890, c. 1948, c. 1970, contributing**

This two-story wood frame Art Deco commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is attached to the building to the east and separated from the building to the west by an alley. The building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street and a flat roof. The front elevation has a modern storefront with T-111 plywood siding and a brick veneer second story, and there is asbestos siding at the west elevation. At the left end of the front elevation, there is a doorway leading to the interior stairway. It has a wood-paneled door with a vertical single-pane upper light and a transom. The storefront is symmetrical and has a recessed doorway with a metal-framed glazed door with sidelights flanked by vertical metal-framed display windows. Flanking the doorway opening are vertical display windows with T-111 skirts. The second story has brick corner piers, a stylized frieze with concrete and brick geometrical patterns, a pressed-metal cornice surmounted by a wood paneled parapet, and a concrete beltcourse that also serves as window sills. There is a centered bank of three windows separated by pilastered mullions. Each window has a large horizontal single-pane fixed light with a three-pane transom.

The building was constructed sometime between 1869 and 1885 as a 1-1/2 story structure. The flat-roofed second story was added sometime between 1885 and 1891. At this point, the building had a storefront, a clapboard second story, and a bracketed cornice. The brick façade was probably added in 1948, and the storefront dates to about 1970.

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In 1885, the building was a grocery store. By 1891, it was a “variety” store. In 1921, Bartholomew Quinlan bought the property, and opened a drug store. He had established his first drug store on North Street in 1898, and was later joined by his daughter Agnes. She was reportedly the first female licensed pharmacist in Vermont, but that claim is shared by a woman from Ludlow village. When Quinlan died in 1929, the store was conveyed to his son Raymond, who later conveyed it to his son Edward. Quinlan’s Drug Store remained here until at least 1977.

**59. Ritchie Block, 465-473 Main Street, 1896, contributing**

This large three-story yellow brick Neo-Classical Revival commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street, across from the intersection with School Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is attached to the building to the west and separated from the building to the east by an alley. The symmetrical thirteen bay wide building has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, a yellow-brick, granite-trimmed front elevation, red brick side elevations, a flat roof, and four storefronts that are paired on either side of a central entry to the interior stairway.

The most distinctive architectural feature of the building is the tall stamped-tin entablature. It is supported by cast iron pillars and is framed at each end by large scrolled brackets. It has a molded cornice with small scrolled brackets, a denticulated molded frieze with a foliated pattern, and a band of molding where it meets the brick wall. A short brick parapet rises above the entablature. The storefronts share a stamped-tin molded cornice with a foliated pattern that is framed at each end by large scrolled modillion blocks. There are brick piers at the corners, flanking the center bay, and dividing the outer halves of the façade. Other details include granite window sills and flat brick window arches. The regularly-spaced window openings have wood one-over-one units; the center bay has slightly wider units. The grouping of three windows at the right end of the third story has single-pane vertical units with eight-pane transoms. The side elevations have segmental-arched window openings with two-over-two wood units.

The storefronts are flanked at the outer corners by brick piers, and the center entry has a brick surround with a round-arched doorway with a double-leaf wood paneled door with vertical single-pane lights and a round-arched fanlight. The storefront to the left of this has rectangular cast iron columns with molded bases and capitals that frame the center doorway, flanked by vertical single-pane display windows with paneled skirts and flat sign panels. The doorway has a metal-framed glazed door. A large cast iron pillar separates this storefront from the one to the

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east, which has metal-framed display windows flanking a recessed central entry and a diagonal-board signboard.

The right storefronts are of unequal width and are separated by a narrow brick pier. The left storefront of the pair has rectangular cast iron columns that enframe the off-center recessed doorway as well as the two display windows to the left of the doorway. There is also one display window to the right of the doorway. All the display windows are vertical single-pane units with transoms and paneled skirts. The right storefront of the pair has plain wooden piers enframing a deeply recessed left-hand paneled entry, and a pair of vertical single-pane wood-framed display windows with paneled skirts and a flat sign panel.

The building was constructed in 1896 and is in excellent condition. Neo-Classical Revival features include the symmetry, use of yellow brick, ornate cornices, bays defined by brick piers, flat-arched window openings, and regularly-spaced windows. The building is an excellent example of a Neo-Classical Revival commercial block. The upper stories have not been altered, except for the third story transomed windows that were installed in 1912. The storefronts originally had a similar appearance to that of the extant second storefront. The right hand storefronts were first renovated in 1936, and their current appearance dates to 1986, when the building was completely rehabilitated.

The building was constructed for A.K. Ritchie, proprietor of a dry goods and carpet store. From 1884-1896 his store occupied a building down the street (#63). After the completion of his new building, his store occupied the right half storefronts, and the Bennington municipal offices occupied the left storefronts. The second story contained the Knights of Pythias and offices, and the third floor was the Masonic Lodge. Shortly thereafter, the Burt Brothers clothing store opened in the second storefront, and remained there until 1981. The Ritchie store was taken over by M. Lurie and Co. in 1919, which was replaced by the Henry Charles Co.'s department store in the mid 1920s. The Masonic Lodge moved into its new building in 1912 (#65), and the Bennington municipal offices moved into its current home in 1925 (#4). The Ritchie Block was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.

The Ritchie Block replaced A.K. Ritchie's house, which was moved to the rear of the lot and turned 180 degrees to face Union Street in order to make way for the new building. It is a Greek Revival house with a monumental portico. This house had been constructed about 1860, probably for E.S. Pratt.

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**60. E.S. Pratt Store/Shaffe's Men's Shop, 475-477 Main Street, c. 1850, 1992, contributing**

This 2-1/2 story Greek Revival building is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the street and is separated from the building to the west by an alley and has a large vacant lot to the east. The front-gable three bay by three bay building has vinyl siding, a slate roof with boxed cornices, a pedimented gable, and a projecting storefront. There is also a one-story rear wing with a steep shed roof. Exposed architectural trim includes molded gable and eave trim and bed moldings, and a molded cornice at the storefront. The main block has regularly-spaced two-over-two segmental-arched wood windows at the second-story and in the gable.

The storefront projection has a flat roof, a left-hand open vestibule that leads to a doorway at the front of the main block, and a symmetrical storefront. The storefront has a center recessed entry flanked by splayed display areas with wood-framed horizontal single-pane display windows at the front and vertical display windows at the sides, all with paneled skirts. The front display windows and front entry have glass block transoms and the side display windows have paneled transoms. The front entry has a wood paneled door with a large vertical single-pane light.

The building was probably constructed in the 1840s, and no later than 1856. Greek Revival features include the front-gable orientation, pedimented gable, and regularly-spaced windows. The building is in very good condition. The vinyl siding either replaced or covers architectural trim at the corners, eaves, and around the windows. The original storefront was flush with the front of the main block, and had a recessed center doorway and six-pane full-height display windows over short paneled skirts. The storefront projection was added sometime between 1912 and 1921, and completely renovated about 1963, when it was mostly covered in horizontal siding and had an off-center recessed entry flanked by splayed storefronts with single-pane horizontal windows. The storefront was damaged by fire in 1992, when the building to the east burned down. It was rebuilt with the extant appearance.

The building is probably the C. Thatcher house or store that appears on the 1856 map of Bennington, and is probably the E.S. Pratt store on the 1869 map. E.S. Pratt lived next door to the west, and E.S. Pratt & Son manufactured surgical splints. In the late nineteenth century, the building housed a grocery store and dentist, and the grocery store remained until at least the 1920s. Since 1963, the building has been Shaffe's Men's Shop. This store was established in 1932 on North Street by Joseph Shaffe. Later, it moved to West Main Street, and then to a

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building across the street from the current location before moving here in 1963. Shaffe's son David acquired the business in 1975.

**61. Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company/Hoisington Realty, 489 Main Street, c. 1927,  
contributing**

This two-story brick detached commercial block is located on the south side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is adjacent to a large vacant lot to the west, and a dirt driveway separates it from the building to the east. The three bay wide symmetrical building has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, brick walls, a flat roof, and recessed storefronts. There is a small wood frame rear addition. The second story is divided into three bays by brick piers. Architectural trim includes a wood cornice with paired scrolled brackets at the top of the brick piers, paneled friezes with cyma dentils, and a molded wood cornice. The storefront has a molded wood cornice with cyma dentils. The second story window openings have flat brick arches.

The storefront cornice is supported by square posts. An open vestibule at the left edge of the building has a doorway that leads into the main block of the building. The doorway has a modern French door and a transom. Centered on the storefront is a wide entryway accessed by wood steps that are within a wood deck. The doorway has a modern door with a multi-pane upper light and multi-pane sidelights. The deck and staircase are lined with modern balustrade railings. Flanking the entryway are splayed display bays with full-height metal-framed single-pane display windows over paneled skirts and opaque transoms.

The second story of the front elevation has large horizontal window openings that span the bays between the brick piers. The center opening has a tripartite window consisting of a horizontal single-pane window with three integral transoms flanked by single-pane vertical units. The openings in the outer bays have single-pane windows. Above the recessed storefront, the side elevations have horizontal single-pane windows with two integral transoms.

The building was constructed in either 1927 or 1928 and is in very good condition. It is a good example of an early twentieth century commercial block. The square posts, steps, deck and railings were added after 1977, and the deck and stairs replaced a sloping entryway. Otherwise, the building does not appear to have had any alterations. Despite its age, the building has an

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Italianate cornice. The large windows and integral transoms, as well as the flat arches, are features of the Colonial Revival style, which is more appropriate to the date of construction.

The building was constructed as the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company store (today known as the A&P grocery chain). The A&P had other stores in the village at the same time, on North Street (now #18) and South Street (#11), but this is the only building specifically built as an A&P. The building remained an A&P until about 1940, when it became the Honolulu Conservatory of Music and some offices. In the mid 1940s, it was a furniture store, in the 1950s it was Claire Williams's women's clothing store, and in the 1960s it was the Kenyon Agency. Since 1969, it has been the home of Hoisington Realty, which was established by Bill Hoisington and is now operated by his widow, Kathleen.

**62. House, 493 Main Street, c. 1835, contributing**

This 2-1/2 story front-gable wood framed detached Greek Revival building is located on the south side of Main Street. It has a small setback from the street and is in close proximity to the adjacent buildings. The sidehall-plan building has a fieldstone foundation, vinyl siding, a slate roof with boxed cornices and a pedimented gable, and an interior brick chimney rising from the center of the roof ridge. There is also a one-story one bay wide flat-roofed addition set back on the east elevation of the house. The right bay of the front gable wall has a two-story flat-roofed bay window.

All of the architectural trim has been removed or is covered by vinyl, except for the molded gable and eave trim, gable and eave bed moldings, gable rakes, and the Greek Revival front entry enframingent, which has a full entablature and pilasters. The front entry has a paneled door with three upper vertical lights. The bay window has single-pane vertical windows at the first story and one-over-one windows at the second story. Except for the six-over-one wood window above the front entry and the four-pane segmental-arched window in the gable, the main block has vinyl replacement windows with false muntins. The front elevation of the side addition has a modern multi-pane bay window, and the side elevation has three hooded doorways and one-over-one windows.

The building was constructed as a dwelling and may date to as early as the 1830s, although if the segmental-arched window is original, the house dates to the 1850s or 1860s. The side addition was added by the 1880s as a porch with an enclosed space behind it (the differentiation between

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the enclosed space and the former porch is marked by a seam in the siding). The bay window of the main block is probably not original, and probably dates to the late nineteenth century or early twentieth century (it does not appear on any Sanborn maps). The windows were probably originally six-over-six units. Greek Revival features of the building include the front-gable orientation, sidehall plan, pedimented gable, and front entry entablature and pilasters. The building is in good condition.

This building could be the Mrs. Martin house on the 1856 map of Bennington. It remained a dwelling until sometime between 1921 and 1925, when it was converted to a store. It has remained a commercial building since then, and is now vacant.

**63. Newton Block/Adams Hardware, 495-497 Main Street, 1884, contributing**

This two-story wood frame detached Italianate commercial block is located at the southwest corner of Main Street and Silver Street and faces Main Street. It abuts both sidewalks and is close proximity to the buildings to the west and south. It has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to Main Street, a brick underpinning, asbestos siding, a wood-framed storefront, and a flat roof with a parapet. The bottom third of the east elevation has clapboard siding. There is also a small one-story flat-roofed wing in the rear.

The front and east elevations have a decorative entablature with a molded cornice with a denticulated bed molding, a paneled frieze with an oval in each panel, and a molded architrave. The west elevation has a plain cornice that is lower than the other cornices, which reveals that the front cornice was originally a falsefront parapet. At the four bay wide front elevation, the entablature also has scrolled brackets supporting the cornice. Other architectural trim includes flat-stock cornerboards and peaked decorative window labelmolds at the front and east elevations. At the front and east elevations of the second story of the building, there are regularly-spaced one-over-one replacement windows. The first story of the east elevation has three irregularly-spaced small vertical single-pane windows, and the west elevation has irregularly-spaced individual and paired one-over-one replacement windows.

The wood-framed storefront has a molded cornice with scrolled brackets and a molded architrave. There is a right-hand entry to the interior stairway, which has a metal-framed glazed door and a vertical transom. Next to this, the storefront is symmetrical and has a recessed center entryway with double-leaf metal-framed glazed doors. The doorway is flanked by splayed

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display areas with two-pane square display windows with leaded-glass transoms and paneled skirts. The side elevations of the display areas have vertical single-pane display windows with leaded-glass transoms and paneled skirts.

The building was constructed in 1884 and is in good condition. It is a good example of an Italianate commercial block. Italianate features include the decorative bracketed cornice and peaked lintelboards. The building originally had two-over-two windows and clapboard siding. The rear wing began as a detached building about 1890, and then was attached to become the rear wing about 1895.

The building was constructed for William D. Newton. Newton had moved to Bennington about 1870 and in 1878 acquired William Grover's plumbing and heating business. Before the subject building was constructed, Newton operated his business in a house that stood in this location. After the construction of the new building, A.K. Ritchie rented the front of the building for his dry goods store while Newton operated his business in the rear of the building, and then in the added rear building that became a wing. When Ritchie moved his business into his new building down the street (#59) in 1896, Newton took over the front section and added hardware to his products. By 1908, he had also become an automobile dealer. From 1910 to 1976, the building was the home of Adams Hardware; since then it has been Adams Lock & Security.

**64. The Vermont Bank and Trust Company, 500 Main Street, 1959, non-contributing**

This two-story American International Style brick commercial block is located at the northeast corner of Main Street and School Street. It faces Main Street and has a moderate setback from both streets. East and north of the building, there are paved parking lots and driveways. The building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to Main Street, brick veneer walls, a flat roof, and a two-bay flat-roofed drive-through bank teller at the east elevation. Centered on the front elevation is a full-height pavilion that is sheathed with clapboard siding. The first story of the pavilion is recessed and contains an off-center main entryway with double-leaf metal-framed glazed doors with metal-framed glazed sidelights and transoms. To the right of this, there is a single-leaf door and transom. Flanking the doorways, the walls are topped with wood-framed awning windows. The second story of the pavilion is spanned by a bank of horizontal windows surmounted by steel spandrels.

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The west elevation of the building has regularly-spaced vertical bands that consist of windows and steel spandrels. The windows are banks of three wood-framed single-pane vertical units with lower awnings. The east elevation has irregularly-spaced vertical bands of windows and steel spandrels, with one band having paired windows and two bands having banks of four windows. At the right half of the east elevation, there are no vertical bands, and the second story has three regularly-spaced pairs of windows.

The building was constructed in 1959 and is in excellent condition. American International Style features include the flat roof without coping, smooth unornamented wall surfaces without decorative detailing, and steel spandrels. The building is non-contributing due to its age. Although the building may qualify as a historic building in 2009, it has already been altered and has lost integrity. The clapboard siding replaced ribbed siding at the second story and display windows at the first story. The extant windows replaced units with vertical panes flanking center square panes over paired awnings.

The building was constructed as the Vermont Bank and Trust Company. This bank was the result of a merger between the Brattleboro Trust Company and the First National Bank of Bennington in 1955. It was renamed the First National Bank of Bennington and Trust in 1973. Since about 1990, it has been Banknorth. The bank replaced the 1873 High Victorian Gothic style brick Second Congregational Church (rebuilt after a 1928 fire), which by 1958 had become too large for the congregation to maintain.

**65. Masonic Temple, Mt. Anthony Lodge #13, 504 Main Street, 1912, contributing**

This 2-1/2 story Tudor Revival brick building is located on the north side of Main Street. It has a moderate setback from Main Street, has a paved driveway to the west and is in close proximity to the building to the east. The front-gable building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a raised basement, a poured concrete foundation, English-bond brick walls, and a steep slate roof with a stepped parapet at the front gable wall. There is a 1-1/2 story brick shed-roofed wing at the rear.

The symmetrical building is trimmed with textured concrete details. The three bay wide front gable wall has quoined corner pilasters surmounted by paneled blocks with a carved quatrefoil at the fronts and buttress copings at the sides. The parapet has a molded coping and a pendant post with a Greek Cross finial in the gable peak. The centered front entry is accessed by a flight of

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stone steps with wide brick cheek walls. It has a quoined enframingent around a square opening containing a Tudor arch with spandrels. The doorway contains a double-leaf Tudor-arched wood door with large beadboard panels. Directly above the doorway, there is a large sculptured oriel window with a molded base, sill and cornice. The window is surmounted by decorative paneled blocks containing various Masonic symbols. There are also concrete watertables, which also serve as the first story window sills, large concrete window lintels, and a concrete beltcourse at the bottom of the gable. The windows at the front elevation and at the front two bays of the side elevations have quoined casings, and the front two bays of each side elevation are separated from the rest of the elevation by a quoined pier.

Flanking the front entry are paired single-pane casement windows with integral fifteen-pane leaded transoms. The oriel has a bank of three windows in the front face and single windows in the side face; each unit is a single-pane vertical window with twenty-five pane leaded integral transoms. The gable has paired vertical windows; one is single-pane and the other has diagonal leaded glass. The front two bays of the side elevations have windows that match those of the front elevation; one bay has a triplet window and the other bay has a paired window. The basement of the front section of the building has regularly-spaced six-pane windows. The first story of the west elevation, to the left of the two front bays, has segmental-arched window openings, three paired one-over-one wood windows with integral single-pane transoms, and three one-over-one windows. The second story has two triplet vertical windows with tall integral transoms and concrete window lintels.

The building was constructed in 1912 and is in very good condition. It does not appear to have had any alterations except for the loss of the leaded glass window in the gable. Tudor Revival features include the steeply-pitched roof, parapeted and stepped gable, contrasting brick and concrete walls, Tudor-arched doorway, oriel window, quoined pilasters, and leaded-glass windows. The building is an excellent and intact example of the Tudor Revival style, and is the only building of this style in the historic district, and possibly the whole village.

The Masonic Temple was designed by Harding and Seaver, architects of Pittsfield, Massachusetts. It was constructed on land donated by John Norton, a local pottery manufacturer, and the building was donated by Col. Olin Scott, proprietor of the Bennington Machine Works. The building has always served as a Masonic Temple. Masons began meeting in Bennington in the late eighteenth century, and the first Masonic lodge in Bennington was chartered in 1824. It disbanded in 1832 during the "anti-Masonic excitement" sweeping the United States. The Mt.

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Anthony Lodge #13 was organized in 1848. The first meetings were at the Stark House (now #39), then the Masons had their own hall in the Park Block (#10), occupying the entire third story, and then they had their own hall in the Ritchie Block after its completion in 1896, occupying the entire third story (#59).

**66. House/Store, 506 Main Street, c. 1875, c. 1960, contributing**

This two-story wood frame former dwelling is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is in close proximity to the adjacent buildings. The side-gable three bay wide building has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street, clapboard siding, an overhanging open-eave asphalt shingle roof with an off-center brick ridge chimney, and a full-façade one-story front projection.

The main block has molded gable and eave trim and flat-stock cornerboards, friezes, gable rakes, and window casings. The front projection has an asphalt-shingle shed roof, and a symmetrical storefront next to a secondary entry that leads to the main block. This entry contains a wood door with two lower vertical panels and three upper vertical lights. The storefront has a recessed entryway with a modern metal door, and splayed display areas with full-height metal-framed single-pane display windows. The rest of the building has regularly-spaced one-over-one replacement windows.

The building was constructed as a dwelling about 1875 and is in good condition. The front projection was originally a porch, and was filled in with a storefront sometime between 1956 and 1973. The building served as a dwelling until sometime between 1925 and 1946, when it was converted to a store. It has remained a commercial establishment since then, and is now owned by the Masonic Lodge.

**67. Bennington Free Public Library, 101 Silver Street, 1865, 1936, 1988, contributing**

This three section building is located at the southeast corner of Main Street and Silver Street. It has a two-story Renaissance Revival brick block at the corner, which faces Main Street, a 1-1/2 story brick Colonial Revival section that faces Silver Street, and a one-story stuccoed modern connector structure called the Jenney building. The seven bay by six bay Main Street section abuts both sidewalks and has an almost square footprint, a marble rubble foundation, brick masonry walls, a low-sloped hipped roof with boxed cornices, and a blind attic story. The

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Jenney building projects south from the right half of the rear elevation of the Main Street section, and has stuccoed walls and a gabled roof. The Silver Street section has a modified rectangular footprint oriented parallel to Silver Street and projects south from the south gable wall of the Jenney building. It has a poured concrete underpinning, brick veneer walls, and a side-gable slate roof with boxed cornices and pairs of large interior end chimneys.

The front elevation of the Main Street section is symmetrical and has an arcaded first story with round-arched openings. There is a corbelled beltcourse below the attic level, a molded wood cornice encircling the roofline, and regularly-spaced segmental-arched window openings at the second story of the front elevation and both stories of the west elevation. The east elevation has irregularly-spaced segmental-arched window openings and one bay window. All of the round-arched openings have wood fanlight panels. The centered front entry contains a modern double-leaf paneled wood door with multi-pane upper lights, and single-pane transoms. The rest of the round-arched openings have modern paired casements over paneled spandrels. The segmental-arched window openings contain twelve-over-twelve wood windows. Renaissance Revival features of the building include the cube-shaped massing, symmetry, low-pitched hipped roof, arcaded façade, and blind attic defined by a beltcourse. The building is in very good condition and is a good example of a vernacular Renaissance Revival structure.

The Main Street section was constructed in 1865. It originally had a belvedere in the center of the roof, which was removed sometime between 1956 and 1987. There were originally two entries on Main Street, flanking three central openings, and all the round-arched openings originally had display windows. The current appearance of the round-arched openings dates to about the 1970s.

While the building was under construction in 1865, it was purchased by local businessmen Seth B. Hunt and Trenor W. Park. Hunt was the proprietor of the Bennington Woolen Mills, and Park was a lawyer and established the First National Bank of North Bennington. The men established Bennington's first library there, and the library and a meeting hall were located on the second story and were operated by the YMCA. The first librarian was Charles W. Swift. The first story was used as offices and commercial spaces, which provided income for the library.

The front (west) elevation of the Jenney building is accessed by concrete steps and a ramp with stucco half-walls. The building is spanned by a full-height flat-roofed semi-enclosed porch with scored stucco walls and three round-arched openings; the center opening contains a multi-pane

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round-arched window and the outer openings are open entryways that lead to a metal-framed glazed entry vestibule. The Jenney building was constructed in 1988.

The nine bay wide Silver Street section is symmetrical and has a large centered cross gable that creates a projecting two-story three-bay center pavilion. A large cupola sits atop the ridge of this cross gable, and there is an entry porch at the pavilion. The building has a full entablature with a modillioned cornice and cornice returns and matching gable trim in the pavilion, concrete window lintels in the pavilion and round-arched window openings with concrete keystones and impost blocks at the front elevation of the main block, and louvered fanlight transoms in the end gables. There is an oval panel in the pavilion gable that reads, "Bennington Free Library."

The porch of the Silver Street section is semicircular in plan and has a flat roof, denticulated entablature, Tuscan columns, and a wrought-iron roof balustrade. The pilastered entryway has multi-pane 2/3 sidelights and transoms, and double-leaf wood paneled doors. There is a Palladian window above the entry porch with pilasters and entablatures at the outer windows, a multi-pane double-hung center window with a tracery round-arched transom, and multi-pane side windows. The window openings flanking the porch and Palladian window have twelve-over-twelve wood units. The front elevation of the main block has regularly-spaced fifteen-over-twenty wood units with round-arched tracery transoms. The wood-framed cupola has a square base with wood quoins, clapboard siding, a modillioned cornice and a roof balustrade, and a slender octagonal belfry with tripartite posts, an entablature, multi-pane windows between the posts, and a metal multi-faced domed roof with a finial and weathervane.

The Silver Street section was constructed in 1936 and does not appear to have had any alterations. Colonial Revival features of the building include the symmetry, pavilion, modillioned and denticulated entablatures, fanlights, semicircular porch with Tuscan columns, regularly-spaced round-arched window openings with keystones, multi-pane windows, tracery transoms, the cupola, and the sidelights of the entry. The building is an excellent and intact example of a Colonial Revival structure, and is in excellent condition.

The Silver Street building was donated by Trenor Park, Jr., in memory of his father, and was constructed on the Park family homestead site. The building was designed by Herbert Turner, an architect from Elizabeth, New Jersey. The cupola was designed to match that of Bennington's third courthouse (no longer standing). Architectural details were based on other classical buildings in the region, and Turner reportedly intended for the building to look older than it was.

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After the Silver Street building was completed in 1936, the library moved into this building and vacated the Main Street building, which became stores and offices. Since the Jenney building was constructed in 1988, all three sections of the building have been used as library facilities.

**68. Lyons-Meachem-Ross House, 507 Main Street, 1847, contributing**

This two-story brick Greek Revival former dwelling is located on the south side of Main Street at the east end of the historic district. It has a small setback from Main Street, is in close proximity to the building to the west, and has a paved parking lot to the east. The building consists of a brick main block and side wing, and a brick and wood frame rear wing. The three bay wide sidehall-plan main block has a short rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a fieldstone foundation, brick masonry walls, an overhanging hipped slate roof with boxed cornices, and a one bay Colonial Revival entry porch. There are brick corner piers, a wide brick friezeboard, and a molded wood cornice with bed moldings. The regularly-spaced window openings have stone lintels and sills, and six-over-six wood units.

The front entry has a flat-stock enframing, a paneled wood door and full-height multi-pane sidelights. The porch has a gabled slate roof with a pedimented gable, an entablature, Tuscan corner columns, tapered Tuscan pilasters, and spindle-backed benches along the sides. There is a wood frame two-story bay window at the right bay of the west elevation. It has clapboard siding, a flat roof, eight-over-one windows in the front face, and six-over-one windows in the side faces.

The three bay wide side wing is set back from the front elevation of the main block and has a short rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street. It has a rough marble underpinning, brick masonry walls, a hipped roof with boxed cornices and a full wood entablature, and stone window and door sills and lintels. There is a shallow recessed porch spanning the front elevation, which has Tuscan corner columns and tapered Tuscan pilasters. The front elevation has a doorway in the third bay with a six-paneled door. The other two bays have six-over-six wood windows, and centered on the east elevation, there is a six-over-six window.

The rear wing has a two-story one-bay brick section that projects west of the west elevation of the main block. It has a front-gable roof with boxed cornices and a pedimented half-gable, stone window sills and lintels, and a six-panel door facing the street. Behind this is the wood frame section of the wing, which has both a one-story and two-story section with clapboard siding.

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The house was constructed in 1847 and is in very good condition. It does not appear to have had any alterations, except for the addition of the side bay window and the front porch of the main block, which both date to about 1910. Greek Revival features include the front-gable orientation, the sidehall plan, the large corner piers and frieze, the stone sills and lintels, the entry sidelights, and the regularly-spaced windows. The Tuscan columns of the porches are of the Colonial Revival style. The building is an excellent example of a Greek Revival dwelling with an attached office, is the only brick dwelling in the historic district, and is the most intact Greek Revival building in the historic district.

The house was constructed for Lafayette Lyons. In 1850, he sold it to Solomon S. Pratt, who rented it out. In 1860, Pratt sold the property to Lydia H. Riddell, who lost the property due to foreclosure. In 1866, the property was sold to attorney James B. Meachem, who practiced in a building that once stood just west of the Putnam House. In 1901, Meachem's widow Corinna sold the property to physician Lucretius H. and his wife Salome B. Ross. He had his practice in the office wing. In 1956, the house was acquired by the Rosses' daughter Salome and her husband David Demaree. They sold it in 1960 to Willard and Joyce Goyette, who rented it to the Greater Bennington Chamber of Commerce, which moved out in the late 1970s. In 1983, the property was sold to the law firm that currently occupies the former house, and has been a law office since then.

**69. Surdam Building, 508 Main Street, 2006, non-contributing**

This three-story wood-framed apartment house is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is separated from the adjacent buildings by alleyways. The three bay wide building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a flat roof, a brick veneer first story at the front and east elevations, a brick veneer west elevation, and clapboard upper stories at the front and east elevations. The right bay of the first story is a recessed entry porch with a brick corner pier and double-leaf metal-framed glazed doors with transoms. The rest of the first story is a storefront with horizontal single-pane display windows separated by freestanding Tuscan columns. The left two front bays of the upper stories are porches with a shed roof, square posts, and balustrade railings. At the back of each porch there is one door and one window. The right bay of each upper story has a set of paired one-over-one windows. The building was constructed in 2006 and is non-contributing due to its age. It replaced a c. 1880 two-story three-bay brick commercial block that burned down in 2002.

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**70. C.A. Wood Print Shop/H.P. Woodman Furniture Store, 512-516 Main Street, c. 1899, contributing**

This two-story two bay wide brick commercial building is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is the west half of a four-bay wide structure. It is also in close proximity to the building to the west. The building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, brick walls, and a flat roof. Behind the building, there is another brick building associated with the property (A).

The building has two storefronts and a tall roofline entablature with a denticulated modillioned cornice. The storefronts share a molded wood cornice. The doorways to the storefronts are adjacent to each other, and there is an entry to the interior stairway at the right end of the building. All of the doorways contain wood paneled doors with vertical upper lights. The left storefront is next to a brick pier with stone embellishments, and both storefronts have a single-pane full-height vertical display window. At the second story, there is an oriel window and a window opening with a brick flat arch. The bay window has a hipped roof, molded cornice, frieze, a paneled base, and a one-over-one window in each face. The other window opening has paired one-over-one windows. The west elevation has segmental-arched window openings.

The building was constructed sometime between 1896 and 1901, and does not appear to have had any major alterations. It was first occupied by C.A. Wood's print shop and a millinery, and by 1906 the H.P. Woodman furniture store had replaced the millinery. The furniture warehouse was located in the building at the rear (A). The print shop remained in the building until at least the 1950s, but the furniture store closed by the late 1910s. By the 1920s, the furniture store had become the Bennington Shoe Repairing Company.

**A. H.P. Woodman Furniture Warehouse, c. 1904, contributing**

This 2-1/2 story brick industrial building is located behind and is in close proximity to the Main Street building. It has a rectangular footprint oriented parallel to the street and faces north. The symmetrical five bay by four bay building has brick walls and a side-gable slate roof. The base of the west gable wall is rubblestone, which extends into a wall that projects north from the building. The building has a centered doorway with a gabled porch and regularly-spaced segmental-arched window openings. The porch has an open asphalt-shingle roof, square posts, and vertical-board railings. The window openings have six-over-six wood windows.

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The building was constructed sometime between 1901 and 1906, and does not have any alterations except for the addition of the entry porch. It was first used as a warehouse for the H.P. Woodman Furniture company, which had a storefront in the Main Street building. The company left by the end of the 1910s, and the building has been used mostly as storage since then. During the 1970s, it was the Bennington Redemption Center.

**71. Schwartz Meat Store/Geannelis, 520 Main Street, c. 1899, c. 1971, contributing**

This two-story two bay wide brick commercial building is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is the east half of a four-bay wide structure. It is connected to the building to the east with a one-story addition that belongs to the subject building. The building has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, brick walls, and a flat roof.

The building has a modern storefront and a tall roofline entablature with a denticulated modillioned cornice. The storefront has a left-hand entry that leads to the interior stairway, and a horizontal multi-pane display window. Spanning the storefront is a concave sheet-metal hood. The entry to the first story is through the one-story addition, which has a pilastered entry with an entablature, a wood paneled door with multi-pane upper lights, ½ length multi-pane sidelights with paneled bases, a sheet-metal shed hood that is shared by the storefront of the building to the east, and a vertical-board parapet. The second story of the main block has altered window openings containing paired one-over-one replacement windows with false muntins. The flat arch of the original opening remains above the left window opening.

The building was constructed sometime between 1896 and 1901, and has been altered. The original storefronts were probably similar to the ones in the west half of the building (#70). The extant appearance of the storefront, and the one-story side addition probably date to 1971, when the first story was converted to a restaurant. (The author remembers visiting the restaurant in the early 1970s, and has a vague memory of this appearance.)

The building began as a grocery store, and by 1906 was C. Schwartz's Meats and Provisions shop. By the 1920s, the meat store was operated by W.F. Shanahan, and remained open until at least the 1930s. In 1934, Peter Geannelis opened an ice cream shop here, which was converted to Geannelis restaurant in 1971. The restaurant was operated by Peter's son Richard and his wife Mary, and was open until recently.

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**72. Gibney Block, 528 Main Street, c. 1899, contributing**

This three-story wood frame commercial building is located on the north side of Main Street. It abuts the sidewalk and is attached to the building to the east and attached to a one-story structure that connects it to the building to the west. It has a yellow brick-veneer façade with a falsefront parapet that conceals a front-gabled slate roof, and vinyl siding at the side elevations. The first story has a modern storefront, the second story has a right-hand oriel window, and the third story has four regularly-spaced window openings.

The parapet has a tall brick entablature with scrolled modillion blocks supporting a molded denticulated cornice, a frieze with an egg-and-dart band and a band of dentils, and a tall molded architrave. The window openings have brick architrave casings and molded brick cornices. The storefront has a brick cornice with a molded frieze, and a horizontal multi-pane display window with a sheet-metal shed-roofed hood that is shared with the entry to the connector building. To the right of the storefront, there is a doorway with a paneled wood enframingent, double-leaf wood doors with full-height single-pane lights, and a single-pane transom. The three-sided oriel window has a plain entablature and molded base, and a one-over-one window in each face. The other second story window has paired one-over-one replacement windows, and the third story has one-over-one windows.

The building was constructed sometime between 1896 and 1901, with a different storefront of unknown appearance. The extant storefront dates to after 1977. Otherwise the building does not appear to have any major alterations, and is a good example of a turn-of-the twentieth-century building with brick ornamentation. The building has probably always been known as the Gibney Block. Its first occupants included a Maguire's Barber Shop and a dentist's office. Maguire's remained open until at least 1977, and the dentist office remained until at least the 1920s. Two of the dentists included A.Z. Cutler and Rollin D. Jenney. In 1914, the building also became the location of the Bennington Water Power and Light Company offices.

**73. Firestone/Canopy Shops, 530 Main Street, c. 1946, c. 1986, non-contributing**

This two-story concrete block commercial building is located on the north side of Main Street at the east end of the historic district. It abuts the sidewalk, is attached to the building to the west, and is adjacent to the paved parking lot of a gas station. It has a rectangular footprint oriented perpendicular to the street, a brick veneer and clapboard front elevation, and a flat roof. The

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three-bay wide symmetrical front elevation has a clapboarded center bay over a recessed entryway. The entry has double-leaf wood doors with full-height vertical single-pane lights, which are flanked by vertical single-pane windows. The outer bays each have a horizontal single-pane display window at the first story and two round-arched narrow window openings at the second story containing casement windows and blank transoms.

The building was constructed about 1946 as a one-story flat-roofed structure spanned by metal-framed display windows. The second story was added about 1986, and a new facade was added to the building, with a Post-Modern arched parapet and "half-timber" siding in the center bay. The current appearance dates to about 2000. The building began as a Firestone tire store, and in 1976 became Bennington Tire. In the late 1980s, after the renovation, it became a women's clothing store.

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**Statement of Significance**

This National Register nomination reflects a resurvey and boundary increase to the original Downtown Bennington Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. The original nomination included forty-six resources in Bennington village's business core, thirty-seven of which remain standing. Since the original nomination, two non-contributing resources have become contributing since they are now over fifty years of age (#9 and 36 of the updated nomination). The updated nomination includes seventy-six resources (seventy-three primary resources), and the boundary increase adds a section of East Main Street to the historic district, as well as a few extra resources that extend the boundary on West Main Street and North Street. Although the history and significance of the two phases of the historic district are intertwined, because the boundary increase is significant and there is more diversity of building types and uses, the boundary increase adds significance to the historic district in the contexts of transportation, culture and government, industry and commerce, and historic architecture and patterns of town development.

The Downtown Bennington Historic District is significant for its distinctive characteristics as the historic commercial core and political center of Bennington County's largest town. The power of the Walloomsac River, which flows through the village, is the reason for the village's existence and growth as it enabled the operation of numerous mills. This resulted in the development of residences, stores, churches, hotels, schools, fraternal organizations, and government buildings. Since the 1820s, Bennington village has been the economic center of Bennington County. Since the late eighteenth century, the center of the historic district has been the crossroads of the major north-south route for western Vermont and the major east-west route for southern Vermont, now known as Vermont Routes 7 and 9. Bennington village has also been an important railroad center since 1852. The historic district is also significant for its large concentration of intact historic commercial, residential, ecclesiastical, fraternal, educational and civic buildings, which as a cohesive group depict the settlement, growth and culture of the commercial center of Bennington village. Fifty-eight of the seventy-three (80%) primary resources in the historic district contribute to its significance and the non-contributing resources do not prevent the historic district's ability to convey its historic contexts. The historic district's significance also lies in its palette of architectural styles: Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, High Victorian Gothic, Renaissance Revival, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Bungalow, Tudor Revival, American International Style, and Art Deco. The period of significance of the historic district is 1835-1957, which begins with the approximate dates of the earliest surviving

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resources and ends fifty years ago, the most recent year allowed under National Register guidelines. The historic district meets National Register Criterion A for its representation of a pattern of town development and its contribution to Vermont's history of culture and government, and National Criterion C as an excellent example of a historic urban village with a variety of architectural styles and building uses.

Like many other large towns in Vermont, Bennington's best economic years were from the 1860s to the 1920s, which is the era that most of the historic district's buildings date from. Despite the loss of all of the historic district's industrial concerns, most of the industrial buildings remain intact and have been rehabilitated for appropriate uses. Several fires on Main Street and continued economic prosperity during the twentieth century resulted in the replacement of many nineteenth-century structures with new structures. Although many of these buildings are not old enough to qualify as historically contributing resources, they are attached commercial structures with similar setbacks as the historic structures, and are not overly intrusive, so they help to retain the historic streetscape.

The town of Bennington was Vermont's first chartered township in 1749. It was named after Benning Wentworth, who was the royal governor of New Hampshire appointed by the King of England. Wentworth granted 129 townships in the New Hampshire territory that was later to become the state of Vermont. The first settler in Bennington was Captain Samuel Robinson, who arrived in 1761 and lived in what is now called Old Bennington, which lies on a hill just west of Bennington village. He recruited friends and family to follow suit. By the Revolutionary War, the town's population was 1,500, making it the most populated town in Vermont at the time. At this point, most of the town's residents lived in Old Bennington.

Old Bennington was the town's first economic and political center, and until the mid nineteenth century was called Bennington Village. It was the location of the town's first stores, residences, meeting houses, courthouses, schools, bank, post office and newspaper, all appearing by the end of the eighteenth century. (Old Bennington's history is well-documented in the National Register of Historic Places nomination for this historic district.) The one thing that Old Bennington lacked was a source of water power, so what is now Bennington village became the location of the town's first mills due to the water power provided by the Walloomsac River and its branches. The name Walloomsac is reportedly derived from "Wallum," the name of a Dutch landowner, and "shaik," a Dutch work meaning "grant."

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Bennington village was first known as the “lower village,” the “east village,” and “Algiers,” and the downtown area is now also known as “downstreet.” The village’s development began in the 1760s when the Safford family built the town’s first saw and grist mills on the Walloomsac River near the corner of Main Street and Beech Street, which is now at the east end of the village. The Safford house is the oldest surviving dwelling in the village. Subsequent mill development occurred along the Walloomsac and its tributary Barney Brook. Early nineteenth century mills included the Valentine woolen mill and the North Pottery, both on Pleasant Street, and Moses Sage’s iron furnace located on the Bennington/Woodford boundary.

In addition to the mills, another reason for the development of Bennington village was the fact that it was the crossroads of major east-west and north-south routes that had been established by the turn of the nineteenth century. Main Street had begun as a road leading from Old Bennington to the mills on the Walloomsac, and was extended east to become part of the Windham County Turnpike and west to Troy and Albany. This became Route 9. Route 7, known as North Street and South Street within the village, provides access to northern Vermont and western Massachusetts. This crossroads is now known as the “Four Corners” and “Putnam Square.” It remains the principal intersection of the village and is well-defined by architectural landmarks on three of its four corners, which all face both intersecting streets and have geometric corners that face the intersection. The fourth building, although non-contributing, also has a geometric corner to help define the intersection.

Bennington village grew slowly, and by the 1820s, there were numerous industries in the village, including a forge (possibly in the location of #27), four carding mills, a woolen mill, distilleries, tanneries, blacksmith shops, iron works, a paint factory, a pottery, a linseed oil factory, cotton factories, four grist mills, several saw mills, a chair factory, a blasting powder factory, and four machine shops. This growth resulted in residential and commercial growth in the village, as well as the construction of an academy in 1816, and many people moved “down the hill” from Old Bennington to Bennington village. By the end of the 1820s, the population of Bennington village equaled that of Old Bennington. After thirty years of a steady population of just under 2,500 residents, the increase in industry caused the town’s first population surge during the 1820s, with an increase of almost 1,000 residents. Despite the growth of Bennington village, for the next forty years residents of both villages would struggle for the right to call their village the primary economic and political center of the town.

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The 1835 Hinsdill map shows that the village had roughly become the same size and density as Old Bennington, and that Bennington village's principal streets were Main Street, North Street and Pleasant Street. The only other street within the village was the section of Valentine Street that runs between Main Street and Pleasant Street. Main Street had experienced the most development, and was lined with buildings from what is now Depot Street (one block west of Route 7) to Beech Street at the east end of the village. One of these buildings could be the Greek Revival house just west of the intersection with Silver Street (#62). Except for the 1830 Baptist church just east of the historic district, and the 1833 Methodist church (#52), the uses of these buildings are unidentified; they are probably residences, stores, and taverns. The village's first tavern was reportedly built in the late eighteenth century in the location of the extant Harte Block (#39), and the Franklin House hotel was built in the 1820s in the location of the extant Putnam House (#12).

Despite the numerous buildings on Main Street, the 1835 map shows that there were only two buildings on South Street within the historic district (no longer standing). North Street was more densely settled on the block between Pleasant Street and the river, with seven buildings on the east side of the street and three buildings on the west side of the street. One of these buildings may have been a Greek Revival house that is now the VFW clubhouse (#20). There was only one building on the block between Main Street and Pleasant Street. North Street included the historic district's first industrial buildings, the Enos Adams tannery (behind #26 and no longer standing), a foundry on the bank of the river (later replaced with #27), and an unknown industrial building across the street (later replaced with #30).

Two of North Street's and one of South Street's extant industrial landmarks appeared in the 1840s. They are well-preserved examples of Bennington's early industrial architecture, and stand at the gateways to the north and south ends of the historic district. One is the c. 1842 Greek Revival Brown & Gage foundry (#27), which reportedly replaced an 1811 foundry, and the other is the c. 1845 Eagle Iron Works foundry and machine shop (#30). Until the late twentieth century, a large shed stood behind the Brown & Gage foundry, which was contemporaneous with or older than the foundry and was originally used as a machine shop.

The Graves & Root blacksmith shop was constructed on South Street about 1845 and manufactured items for this company's "Yankee Peddler" business in which agents traveled around in carts selling their wares. The construction of this building represents the move of a business from Old Bennington into Bennington village, as Graves & Root initially operated their

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business in the 1830s in Old Bennington. In addition, they built a tin shop on Main Street (in the location of #37) and their new homes in the village as well. Graves' Greek Revival house was in the location of #33 (later moved) and Root's c. 1846 Greek Revival house is now the town offices (#4). Root's and his next door neighbor's c. 1847 house reveal the desire for successful businessmen to live in Bennington village rather than Old Bennington. Several other 1840s houses of this design were also constructed around the village, including two houses on Main Street near School Street (one was removed or demolished and the other now stands on Union Street), and one on Pleasant Street.

Another sign of Bennington village's success was the establishment of the *Bennington Evening Banner* newspaper in 1840, probably on the east side of North Street just north of Main Street. The newspaper in Old Bennington closed in 1850. Also, Bennington village's first post office opened in 1848, and the village, instead of Old Bennington, was officially named "Bennington." These events occurred much to the dismay of the residents of Old Bennington, who had to endure "West Bennington" as the new name of their village. This name was completely unacceptable to them and the name was soon changed to "Bennington Centre." The "Bennington" post office was located on the southeast corner of Main Street and South Street (now the location of #40). The Village of Bennington was incorporated in 1849, and remained this separate political entity until merging with the Town in 1971.

Another boon for the village was the local establishment of railroad service in 1852. The first railroad to serve the village was the Western Vermont Railroad, and the first depot was located at the northwest corner of Main Street and Depot Street. The advent of the railroad resulted in new and larger industries in the village, such as the 1854 Henry E. Bradford & Co. textile mill on Main Street at the east end of the village. The textile industry soon dominated the local economy with the manufacture of knit goods and underwear.

The 1852 map of Bennington shows the development in the village since the 1835 map had been published, as well as the makeup of the village at the advent of the railroad. By 1852, Silver Street, Elm Street, and Union Street had been laid out, although there was sparse development along them. School Street had yet to be created. All of the other streets in the historic district were more developed. South Street had a handful of new houses, as well as a now long-gone schoolhouse that stood across from the blacksmith shop (#2). The east side of North Street was fully developed. New structures included a row of commercial buildings and a large livery on the block between Main Street and Pleasant Street (both later removed), a Greek

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Revival grocery store (#16), and several detached houses north of Pleasant Street. The village's first fire station opened in 1851 on Pleasant Street (#17).

From the 1840s and 1850s on, at least three proprietors of North Street businesses lived on the street. Enos Adams and his son Enos, Jr., lived in front of his factory (#26). Samuel Brown lived two doors down from his factory (#27) in a house that was demolished in the late twentieth century (#32 of original National Register nomination). William Oatman lived just north of his grocery store (#16) in the historic district's last Federal style house, which was demolished in 1999 (#36 of the original National Register nomination). In the 1860s, Henry Putnam, who had acquired the foundries at the north end of the historic district, had an Italianate mansion built for himself north of the river just outside of the historic district (demolished in the 1960s).

Main Street in 1852 was densely settled within the historic district, and its first row of attached structures appeared on the north side of the street just east of North Street. Across the street, the c. 1845 Adams Block became the village's first brick commercial building (#40 and 42), and near Silver Street, the c. 1847 Greek Revival Lyons House became the historic district's first and only known surviving brick residence. Other buildings at the time were front-gable wood-framed Greek Revival dwellings and stores, such as the c. 1850 2-1/2 story front-gable Greek Revival building on the south side of Main Street (#60). This and the previously mentioned similar house down the street (#60) are the only front-gable Greek Revival structures that survive on Main Street within the historic district. The 1856 map of Bennington shows that since 1852, School Street had been opened, and was called Smith Avenue. A third church had been added to Main Street, a Congregational Church (now the location of #64), as well as a planing mill (now the location of #70).

The railroads also boosted tourism in Vermont during the third quarter of the nineteenth-century, resulting in the construction and expansion of hotels. These catered to middle-class and business travelers, while wealthier tourists continued on to inns in the Green Mountains. In Bennington village, the two existing taverns were expanded into large three-story Italianate hotels. The eighteenth-century tavern was enlarged to three stories, given a two-story full façade porch, updated in the Italianate style, and named the Stark House. The Franklin House was significantly enlarged and updated in the Second Empire style in 1866, and then suffered a major fire in 1868. It was replaced in 1870 with the extant Putnam House (#12), a three-story brick Italianate structure that is now one of the village's most important landmarks as it is the largest building on

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the "Four Corners" at the center of the village. A section of the west building of the Franklin House survives at the rear of the Putnam House.

The Putnam House was constructed for one of Bennington's most successful industrialists of the last half of the nineteenth century, Henry W. Putnam (1825-1915). Putnam had moved to Bennington in the 1860s and purchased the two industrial sites on North Street at the south bank of the Walloomsac River (#27 and 30). He converted the buildings to manufacture light hardware such as clothes wringers, double pointed tacks, fruit jar tops, wire-making machines, and operated a grist mill. Putnam was also the first president of the Brooklyn Elevated Railway, a banker, and a real estate developer. He established the village water system in the 1870s, first for industrial water power, and then with the addition of a public water system. Shortly before his death, he helped fund the construction of the local Henry W. Putnam Memorial Hospital. Local historian Joseph Parks claims that Putnam "was probably the wealthiest resident, the most successful businessman, and beyond doubt the greatest benefactor Bennington ever had."

Putnam was also indirectly responsible for the official demise of Old Bennington as the political center of town, as he donated the land next to the Putnam House for the village's first courthouse, an ornate brick Italianate building that was constructed in 1870. This was Bennington's fourth courthouse; the first three had been in Old Bennington and the third one had burned down in 1869. Putnam used the same architect to design both buildings. The construction of this courthouse was the last event to officially make Bennington village both the economic and political center of the town of Bennington.

Other large brick high-style commercial and public structures were constructed downtown as a result of Bennington's economic growth during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. One of these was the c. 1865 Italianate commercial storefront building constructed for Trenor Park, another one of Bennington's most successful businessmen (#10). Park, along textile mill owner Seth Hunt, also established Bennington's first library in a new 1865 Renaissance Revival building (#67). The building was also occupied and operated by the Y.M.C.A., the first national organization to have a chapter in the historic district. Industrialists Graves & Root (mentioned above) established the First National Bank of Bennington in an 1868 Italianate building (#35). It was the second national bank to be established in Vermont. The town of Bennington's first large public school was constructed in Bennington village in 1871, just north of the historic district (demolished in 1956). It was a brick Second Empire structure that accommodated five hundred students.

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Bennington's population grew steadily after the surge in the 1820s. The second population surge occurred in the 1860s, a time of industrial expansion in Bennington, when the number of residents increased from 4,389 to 5,760 between 1860 and 1870. The list of businesses on the 1869 map of the village shows that there were twenty manufacturers, eleven merchants, two hotels, three liverys, two drugstores, five attorneys, three physicians, one bank, one newspaper, one dentist, one photographer, one jeweler, and four churches. There were probably more stores and manufacturers than those that appeared on this list, judging by the 1868 *Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, which claims that there were thirty-eight stores in Bennington.

Railroad centers were the first villages in Vermont to acquire an urban appearance with closely-spaced wood frame buildings, and during the third quarter of the nineteenth century, except for the rare brick structure, Main Street was lined with 2-1/2 story wood-framed front-gable detached Greek Revival dwellings and stores and attached two and three-story wood-framed flat-roofed Italianate commercial buildings with storefronts. Buildings that survive from this era include the 1877 Italianate Nichols Block (#56), built as a two-story department store and expanded to three stories in 1896. A historic photo shows the two-story Nichols store and all the buildings west of it, including two detached 2-1/2 story front-gable buildings and attached three story Italianate storefront buildings. Another historic photo shows the north side of the street between North Street and the Methodist Church (#52), which was also dominated by two and three-story Italianate storefront buildings. These streetscapes also show the evolution of multi-pane display windows of the mid nineteenth century to the full-height single-pane display windows of the late nineteenth century, and the predominance of ornate bracketed cornices.

There were five industries operating in the historic district during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Two of the industrial structures remain standing on North Street, and one remains standing on South Street: the Graves & Root blacksmith shop (#2), the Brown & Gage foundry (#27) and the Eagle Iron Works foundry and machine shop (#30). Both foundries were acquired by Henry Putnam in 1867, who converted the former to a grist mill and the latter to a light hardware manufactory. One of Putnam's products was a patented canning-fruit jar. The fourth industry was the Enos Adams tannery on the west side of North Street, which received its water power from a canal that ran from a holding pond that once stood at the northwest corner of Main Street and Depot Street. The Adams complex was first converted into a pottery, and in 1865, Enos Adams & Co. started manufacturing steam and water wheel governors. The fifth industry was the Stewart planing mill on Main Street that was mentioned above, which is long gone.

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During this time, and into the early twentieth century, Bennington's economy was dominated by textile factories also known as "knitting mills," plus shoddy mills and weaving mills. These included the Bradford and Rockwood factories near the east end of Main Street, the Valentine factory on Pleasant Street, the Bennington Woolen Mills run by Seth Hunt, and the Tiffany factory on Division Street. Tiffany & Cooper and Charles Cooper manufactured textile-making machines and knitting needles. Other large-scale industries included the Bennington Machine Works on Pleasant Street, and the Norton Pottery on Park Street. In the 1870s, Bennington's first stone-cutting industry opened on Depot Street just west of the historic district, the Bennington Marble Works. By 1887, three dozen factories stood along a two mile stretch of the Walloomsac River. Although most of these industries were not located within the historic district, they were located in the village and had a direct impact on the historic district's growth and economy.

Three public utilities were added to the village by the 1880s; a telephone service, a water works, and an electrical system. The telephone service was operated by a local doctor at first, and then in 1883 it was sold to the Boston & Northern Telephone Company. Henry Putnam donated the water system to the Town in 1885. The Bennington Electric Light and Power Company was established in 1887, and electric street lights were erected that year.

The first Sanborn insurance map created for Bennington dates to 1885. The map shows that the "Four Corners" had more of an appearance of a town square than an intersection, as the buildings on the north side of Main Street just east of North Street were set back from the road, and there was no building on the northwest corner of Main Street and North Street. By 1885, South Street had gained an additional three-story brick Italianate building with an ornate cornice called the Adams Block. It was located across from the other similar buildings, creating a short business block at the north end of residential South Street. It was demolished shortly previous to the construction of the 1950 building that now stands on the site (#9). Another landmark was added to the "Four Corners" in 1886 when the village acquired its first notable post office building, a three-story brick High Victorian Gothic structure with a polygonal corner at the intersection (#40).

Despite the commercial growth on Main Street, in 1885 the street still had several single-family dwellings, and no brick commercial blocks except for the storefronts on the Post Office and the Putnam House. There were, however, three new multi-bay wood-framed commercial blocks standing on the south side of Main Street between South Street and School Street, the Bradley Block, the Hawks Block, and the Nichols Block (mentioned above). Only the Nichols Block

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(#56) survives, the others were replaced by the end of the nineteenth century with brick commercial blocks.

The 1885 map is also the first glimpse into the uses of the non-public and non-industrial buildings in Bennington village. At the time, the historic district had numerous stores, including grocery, dry goods, and drugstores, books & stationery stores, butchers, millineries, hardware stores, home furnishing stores, and clothing and jewelry stores. There were also barber shops, billiard halls, harness-makers, liveries, tailors, and physicians and dentists. The 1891 map shows that the Park Block had become the second home of the local Y.M.C.A., as well as the first downtown location of the local chapter of the Masons. The map also shows that an additional hotel had been added to the downtown, the Cottage Hotel, which stood just west of the First National Bank of Bennington (#35). It was renamed the Burgess Hotel by 1896, and it must have been successful as it was enlarged several times. (It was demolished in the early 1920s.)

The streetscape of the southern end of North Street followed Main Street's lead in the 1880s and 1890s, when many detached buildings were replaced with attached Italianate storefront buildings, particularly between Main Street and Pleasant Street and just north of Pleasant Street on the west side. North of Pleasant Street, the buildings on the east side of the street were not replaced, leaving a row of mid nineteenth century detached dwellings. A section of the west side of the street north of Pleasant Street remained undeveloped as it was part of the "Hurlburt Estate," which included a house that stood just south of what is now property #29. The most intact building on North Street from that period is a detached three-story Italianate storefront building that was built in 1897 as John H. Moore's Crockery House (#28). In 1889, historian Lewis Aldrich wrote, "The business blocks of Bennington are about on an average with the majority of similarly situated villages; there are some that are pretentious and others that are not so."

The growth of the village also resulted in Bennington's first electric trolley, which opened in 1898. It was part of the Berkshire Street Railway, which consisted of the Bennington Electric Railroad, the Bennington & Hoosick Valley Railway, the Bennington & North Adams Street Railway, the Hoosick Falls Railroad, the Hoosac Valley Street Railway, the Pittsfield Electric Street Railway and the Vermont Company. These tracks connected North Bennington with Hoosick Falls, New York to the west, and Bennington to the south. From Bennington the trolleys ran south through North Adams, Great Barrington and Pittsfield, all in Massachusetts, and also into Connecticut. This street railway system was the only one of its kind in the United States to serve four states.

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During the last half of the nineteenth century, Bennington's Catholic population increased, and the congregation of the St. Francis de Sales Church had grown to 1,200. A new school was needed to serve Catholic students, and the historic district's first school, the St. Francis de Sales Academy, was constructed in 1899 on the north bank of the Walloomsac River. Its high-style Renaissance Revival design and large size help depict the economic status of the Catholics of Bennington at the turn of the century. (They also built the village's most architecturally prominent church, which is located just west of the historic district.)

The Catholic church was not the only church to expand its real estate around the turn of the twentieth century. In 1906, the Methodist church congregation almost tripled the size of its edifice on Main Street, creating a high-style, ornate High Victorian Gothic structure with two towers and numerous stained glass windows (#52).

Bennington's third population surge occurred in the 1890s, when the number of residents increased from 6,391 to 8,033. This was a time of considerable industrial success that resulted in the construction of many large and stylish brick commercial structures. North Street's first masonry commercial blocks were added to the south end of North Street, on both sides of the street (demolished during the third quarter of the twentieth century). Main Street gained four new commercial blocks that were larger than any other building constructed in the historic district except for the Putnam House. In 1894, a three-story Italianate storefront commercial block was constructed next to the Putnam House. About 1907, the A.H. Winslow Block was constructed next door to this, and then about 1923 the two buildings were joined (#37). In 1892, Henry Putnam replaced the Stark Hotel with the Opera Block, Bennington's first theater. It was a nine bay wide three-story High Victorian Gothic commercial structure with a large belvedere, and an opera house in the rear that at the time boasted a stage with the widest proscenium arch outside of Boston. It burned down in 1959. In 1896, the Ritchie Block, a three-story yellow-brick structure, was constructed on Main Street across from the intersection of School Street, replacing one of the last remaining single-family residences in this section of Main Street (#59). In 1899, the wood-framed Hawks Block was replaced with a three-story yellow brick Hawks Block. This building suffered a fire and was reduced to two stories and repaired in 1924 (#51). About 1899, two brick commercial blocks replaced wood-framed buildings on the north side of Main Street near the intersection of Silver Street (#70, 71 and 72).

As in many Vermont towns, the end of the nineteenth century brought new ways for residents to use their spare time. There was a large increase in local chapters of national organizations, and

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as the construction of the Opera Block demonstrates, people began attending the theater. Bennington already had a Y.M.C.A. (as mentioned above) and a Masonic Lodge, both occupying the Park Block at the end of the century. The Masons had been organized in 1848 as the Mt. Anthony Lodge #13. (The Park Block also housed the town's first armory until a separate building was completed in the early 1920s behind the town offices.) The Masonic Lodge was given its own hall occupying the entire third story of the Ritchie Block after its completion in 1896, and then moved into its own building in 1911, a high-style Tudor Revival gem that depicts the prominence of this organization at the time (#65). The Knights of Columbus Council #307 was founded in 1898. From about 1920 to the present, this council has met in its own building on West Main Street, first in an old house, and then in its own Colonial Revival building that replaced the house (#33). The Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 1861 has occupied two buildings on North Street since the 1930s (#23 and in the location of #18).

After the introduction of moving pictures, the Opera Block theater was converted to a movie theater, and a new theater was constructed about 1918 on the south side of Main Street just east of the School Street intersection. It was a two-story brick building with two storefronts in addition to the theater in the rear. It was first called the Uptown Theatre, and then renamed the Harte Theatre. (It burned down in 1992.)

The village's as well as the historic district's industries continued to thrive at the end of the nineteenth century. Henry Putnam continued to produce hardware products and operate a grist mill at his two sites on North Street. Enos Adams & Co. continued to produce water wheel governors, and had added mop sticks, wooden bowls, cotton batting and lumber to its list of products. (The company had also established a soap factory on County Street.) The Graves & Root metalware business had ceased, but their blacksmith shop on South Street was still in operation and run by a former employee. The tin shop on Main Street, however, had closed, and there were no other tin shops in the historic district. A new industry was added to the historic district in 1893, when the Bennington Marble Works (mentioned above) was sold to Emerson Estabrook, who moved the operation to a site behind the Putnam House (#12). He renamed it Estabrook's Granite and Marble Works. The business closed for an unknown reason in 1896. There was also a cigar factory in the Park Block (#10), which opened in the late nineteenth century and closed by 1906, when the building was sold.

The continued growth of the village in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century led to the need for a larger post office, Y.M.C.A., banks, courthouse, and library, and the historic district

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gained six public and semi-public high-style masonry buildings of the classical revival styles that were popular at the time. In 1895, the Bennington County Savings Bank was constructed at the northeast corner of Main Street and North Street, replacing a Greek Revival wood-framed store that reportedly burned down. The bank was a three-story brick and stone commercial block with a tall tapered corbelled cornice. This building replaced the bank's smaller space in the Park Block, where the bank had been located since 1878. (This bank building was demolished in the early 1960s.) The Opera Block and this bank projected farther out into the street than the earlier buildings, eliminating the "town square" configuration and turning the "Four Corners" into a regular intersection. In 1907, a new Y.M.C.A. building was constructed at the northwest corner of Main Street and School Street. It was a three-story brick high-style Colonial Revival building, and was demolished in 1972.

The other four buildings survive intact and help represent the continued growth, vitality and civic pride of the village between the World Wars. In 1914, the post office moved into its new Neo-Classical Revival building with marble-veneered walls and a monumental portico (#8). It served as a post office until 1967, when a new post office was constructed, but has remained a public building since then, now serving as the town's police station. Despite the Depression, three important public and semi-public buildings were constructed in the 1930s. In 1931, the First National Bank of Bennington moved next door into its new marble-faced Neo-Classical Revival home at the northwest corner of Main Street and North Street (#38). In 1935, Bennington's fifth county courthouse (#3) was constructed on an empty lot that had originally been part of the Root property (#4). It is a Colonial Revival structure, also with a monumental portico, and has always served as a courthouse. In 1936, a Colonial Revival library was constructed facing Silver Street behind the original library (#67).

Although several prominent public and semi-public buildings were constructed in Bennington village during the nineteenth century, the town hall did not occupy its own building until 1925, when the town offices opened in the former Root house (#4). Before that, the town clerk's office occupied the house or office of the town clerk until the 1880s, when the town offices had their own space in commercial buildings on Main Street. In 1896, the town offices moved into the Ritchie Block (#59), in a space specifically built for this purpose. For the two years preceding the move to the Root house, the town offices were located in the Fienberg Block (#53).

The introduction of the automobile spurred development outward from the village and had a profound effect on the streetscapes of the historic district. In the early twentieth century, two of

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the historic district's four liverys disappeared, the other two were converted to garages, and several new garages were constructed. The liverys that were converted were those that were associated with hotels. The Putnam House livery was converted about 1909 (#12), and the Burgess Hotel livery about 1913 (between #34 and 35). These garages both sold and serviced vehicles. The last harness shop in the village closed in the early 1920s.

A few industrial buildings in the historic district were converted to garages in the early twentieth century, depicting both the influence of the automobile and the adaptive reuse of small early nineteenth century industrial structures in an age when larger industrial buildings were required. About 1905, the Enos Adams factory on North Street closed, and one of the buildings was converted to a garage (later demolished). The blacksmith shop on South Street, which specialized in horseshoes from the 1880s to the 1900s, was converted to an automobile repair garage in the 1910s (#2). About 1940, the Putnam grist mill on North Street was converted to an automobile garage and service station (#27).

From 1920 to 1927, three large brick industrial-type buildings were constructed as garages in the historic district, the Bennington Garage (#34), Taylor's Garage (#29), and Marshall's Garage (#1). After the Bennington Garage was constructed, the garage next door that had originally served as the Burgess livery was demolished (or may have burned down). In addition to the garages, gasoline filling stations appeared. The Burgess Hotel was razed along with its former livery, and replaced by a filling station in the early 1920s. A photo of this station depicts the appearance of an early filling station, a small three bay wide by one bay deep Colonial Revival structure with wood shingle siding, a side-gable overhanging roof, a center doorway with a fanlight, an arched hood, and six-over-one windows. Sometime between 1925 and 1946, the Samuel Brown House was converted to a filling station (in the location of #24), and the barn behind the house was converted to an automobile repair shop. The last filling station to be constructed in the historic district replaced a house on South Street about 1950 (in the location of #5). None of these filling stations survive. Many of the remaining single family homes in the historic district gained garages in the early part of the century (none survive). In 1946, a tire store replaced a nineteenth-century building on the north side of Main Street near the intersection with Silver Street (#73).

Another effect of the introduction of the automobile was the replacement of trolley service with buses. Buses replaced trolleys all over Vermont, and Bennington's trolley service closed in

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1929. The last trolley line to serve Vermont was the route between Bennington and North Adams.

Supermarkets began to appear in the United States during the second quarter of the twentieth century. In Bennington, the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company (now known as the A&P) opened grocery stores in three locations. In the 1920s, the A&P was the first self-service grocery store in the United States, with customers selecting products without the assistance of a clerk. In the 1930s, A&P was the United States' most successful grocery store with 16,000 stores nationwide. About 1927, a brick commercial building was constructed as an A&P store (#61). While this building was serving this purpose, two other A&P's opened in the historic district. In 1936, an A&P opened in the former courthouse building (#11), and sometime during the 1930s, a commercial block on North Street housed an A&P (now the location of #18). The A&P's on South Street and Main Street closed by 1940, and the one on North Street remained open until the 1970s. In 1954, a Grand Union supermarket opened on Main Street (#55). This supermarket remained open until the 1960s, during a time when groceries stores outgrew downtown locations and moved to outlying commercial strips.

Bennington's economic prosperity lasted well into the twentieth century, and the population grew steadily until 1990, unlike many other Vermont towns that lost residents as a result of decreased industrial activities. Bennington had been the leader in "knitting mills" in Vermont, and retained the majority of knitting mills until at least the 1930s. The town did lose some of its largest industries as a result of the Depression, but not all of them, and some new industries appeared in from the 1930s to 1950s. Bennington's location at the crossroads of Vermont Routes 9 and 7, two important trucking routes, in addition to its railroad service, which served New York City and Montreal, with connections to the New York Central Railroad, the Delaware and Hudson Railroad, and the Boston and Maine Railroad, plus the lack of labor strikes, helped sustain local industry during the second quarter of the twentieth century.

Four industrial sites in the historic district remained in operation well into the twentieth century. The Catamount Stitching Works operated in the old Enos Adams complex on North Street from 1917 to 1955. The Putnam hardware factory closed in the 1930s and was replaced by the Bennington Brush Company in 1936, which remained there until the 1980s (#30). There were also two new industries that opened in the historic district at the close of World War II. Taylor's Garage closed about 1945, and the building was converted to the Bennington Manufacturing Company, which produced Reis underwear and sportswear until the early 1950s (#29). In 1946,

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Marshall's Garage was sold to the Bijur Lubricating Company, which operated there until 1971 (#1).

The industrial economy of Bennington remained strong throughout the 1950s and 1960s. Textiles persisted as the principal manufacture into the 1950s, particularly woolen cloth and knitted wear. According to the 1955 city directory, paper products as well as furniture were produced, as well as "brushes, fancy papers, clay products, dairy products, hardware, hosiery, machinery, needles, offset process printing, toys, novelties, waists, underwear, batteries and electronic equipment." A 1965 report on the economy of Bennington noted that the town's industries were still going strong, with a list of twenty-one factories producing a wide diversity of products.

In addition to local industries, Bennington's economy between World War I and World War II was boosted by some new local institutions. St. Joseph College opened in 1926, and in 1974 became Southern Vermont College. The Bennington Museum opened in 1928, and remains open to this day. Bennington College was founded in 1932, and today is one of the most prestigious colleges in the United States. Also, in 1923, the country's largest privately-owned orchard was located in Bennington, on land owned by Edward Everett, on whose estate Southern Vermont College is located. Another local source of pride was that local businessman Williams Wills (#9) was elected governor in 1940 and served two terms throughout World War II.

The Depression does not seem to have affected tourism, as the Putnam House remained open, and in the mid-1930s, a Vermont Information Bureau building was constructed between the blacksmith shop (#2) and courthouse (#3) on South Street. It resembled the filling station that once stood between properties #34 and 35; a side-gable three bay wide by one bay deep structure with a fanlight-design door hood. It was probably removed when the blacksmith shop was converted to the Bennington Chamber of Commerce. Tourists historically and currently flock to three of Vermont's most visited historic sites, all in Old Bennington: the Old First Church, the Bennington Battle Monument, and the Bennington Museum.

Important establishments of the historic district, particularly long-running businesses and organizations during the period of significance, included the Oatman grocery store, the Spartan/Stark fire companies, Graves & Root, the A.H. Drysdale Store, the A.H. Winslow hardware store, the Bennington County National Bank, Atkins Jewelry, the Bennington Banner, the F.W. Woolworth Store, Fienberg Brothers, the Nichols Department Store, the Burt Brothers

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Clothing Store, the First National Bank of Bennington, Adams Hardware, Shaffe's Men's Shop, Marra's Shoe Service, and King's Shoe repair.

The Oatman grocery store building was occupied by three groceries over the span of over one hundred years (#16). The historic district's only fire station served as such from 1851 until the 1990s (#17). Graves & Root operated their previously described metalware business in the historic district from about 1845 to the 1880s (#2). The A.H. Drysdale Store, a dry goods and department store, opened in 1873 outside of the historic district. In 1906, the company acquired the Park Block (#10) and moved the store to this location. It remained open in this location until 1977. The A.H. Winslow hardware store was open from the early twentieth century until 1967 (#37). The Bennington County National Bank was established in 1878 and occupied the building at the southeast corner of Main Street and South Street from 1914 until 1973 (#40). Atkins Jewelry occupied the east section of this building from the 1920s until at least the 1970s. The *Bennington Banner*, as mentioned above, was established in 1840, and remains in operation as the town's principal newspaper (#46). The F.W. Woolworth Store opened in 1915 and occupied the Cone Block from its construction in 1924 until the store closed in 1973 (#51). Fienberg Brothers was a department store established in 1919 on North Street, and then occupied the Fienberg Block from its construction in 1929 until about the turn of the twenty-first century (#53). The Nichols Department Store opened in 1869 on Main Street and then occupied the Nichols Block from its construction in 1877 until 1996, when it was the oldest store in Bennington (#56). The Burt Brothers clothing store occupied the Ritchie Block from about the turn of the twentieth century until 1981 (#59). Adams Hardware began as William Newton's hardware store in 1896, became Adams Hardware about 1910, and in 1976 became Adams Lock & Security (#63). Shaffe's Men's Shop was established in 1932 on North Street, and then was in two different locations on Main Street before moving into its current home in 1963 (#60). Marra's Shoe Service has occupied the same storefront on North Street since about 1930 (#21), and King's Shoe Repair has cohabitated with Marra's on the same street since 1958, after being located on Main Street from 1936 until 1958 (#25).

The only non-building historic resource in the village is the Main Street Clock, which was erected in front of the Bennington County National Bank (#40) in 1928 to commemorate the bank's fiftieth anniversary. It is the only freestanding outdoor clock in Bennington County. The last dwelling to be constructed in the historic district was built in the early 1920s and is one of the only Craftsman-style bungalows in the village (#6). The last building to be constructed in the

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historic district during the period of significance that retains its historic status is the 1950 Wills Insurance office (#9).

The mid twentieth century was a period of United States history when older, particularly Victorian-era buildings were demolished, and Bennington was no exception. In 1950, the Colonial-Revival Wills Insurance Office replaced the Adams Block, a three-story late nineteenth century brick block (#9). The Gothic style Congregational Church on the northeast corner of the Main Street and School Street was demolished to make way for an American International Style bank in 1959 (#64). The 1895 bank at the northeast corner of Main Street and North Street was razed in the early 1960s to make way for a one-story commercial storefront building, a type of building that commonly replaced multi-story commercial buildings during the 1960s. The Y.M.C.A. building was demolished in 1972 and replaced with a Dunkin Donuts store (#57). This was the first architectural loss in Bennington to raise public awareness about the negative effects of the demolition of historic structures. This awareness did not prevent the loss of several nineteenth century single-family dwellings on the North Street around the turn of the twenty-first century, when buildings on the east side of the street were removed to make way for parking lots and an expanded bank (#31, 32, 33, 35, and 36 of the original National Register nomination). A vacant lot on the west side of the street was the location of two c. 1910 Colonial Revival duplexes that were demolished in the 1980s.

Downtown Bennington has also experienced the loss of numerous historic resources due to several fires that have plagued Main Street during the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Within two years of each other, in 1959 and 1961, fires destroyed several commercial buildings on Main Street near the Four Corners. In 1959, the Opera House Block burned down, and in 1961, four contiguous buildings across the street burned down. All of these buildings were replaced with one-story modern commercial blocks (#39, 44, 45, 46, and 49). Although these buildings altered the historic appearance of the streetscape, they retain the setback and attached configuration of their predecessors, preserving the streetscape of attached buildings lining the sidewalks. Just east of the Harte Block, a commercial building burned down in 1990, but it was not historic. Its replacement structure helps preserve the streetscape of attached buildings lining the sidewalks. Farther east, the Harte Theatre burned down in 1992, leaving Main Street's only vacant lot within the historic district. In 2006, a detached nineteenth century commercial building burned down, and was replaced with a building with the same footprint and similar massing. The historic district actually gained an old building in 1987, when a c. 1905 Colonial Revival building was moved from West Main Street outside the historic district to North Street.

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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The fact that all but one of the buildings lost to fire have been replaced is a testament to the downtown's importance to its residents and business owners.

Late twentieth-century and early twenty-first century intrusions and losses are to be expected in a Vermont village of this size. Despite these losses, the Downtown Bennington Historic District, as well as the entire village, retain enough historic integrity to depict their nineteenth century and early twentieth century architectural grandeur. Many of the most significant historic structures remain intact, and the adaptive reuse of the industrial structures has enabled their preservation while retaining their integrity. The most significant architectural detail of the historic district is the tall, ornate bracketed cornice that adorns the roofline of most of the historic commercial buildings.

There are numerous intact structures in the historic district that contribute to Bennington village's architectural significance and downtown Bennington is well represented by many architectural styles and building types. There is a wide variety of styles and building uses that span the period of significance, 1835 to 1957. These styles include Greek Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, High Victorian Gothic, Renaissance Revival, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Bungalow, Tudor Revival, and Art Deco.

A good example of a Greek Revival building is the Root House (#4), which has a pedimented gable and monumental Doric portico. All but one of the later buildings are non-residential. A good example of an Italianate building is the Putnam House, which has one of the most intact storefronts of the historic district. The historic district's only Second Empire structure is the Spartan/Stark fire house, which has a Mansard roof (#17). A good example of the High Victorian Gothic style is the Methodist Church (#52), which has ornate Gothic embellishments, towers, pointed-arched windows and numerous stained glass windows. A good example of the Renaissance Revival style is the St. Francis de Sales Academy (#32), a brick structure with stone embellishments such as oversized quoins and voussoirs. A good example of a Colonial Revival building is the Silver Street section of the library (#67). Its architectural details were based on other classical buildings in the region, and the architect reportedly intended for the building to look older than it was. A good example of a Neo-Classical building is the Post Office on South Street (#8), which is completely veneered in marble and has a monumental portico. The historic district's only Bungalow is a good example of this type, with a widely overhanging open-eave roof and a recessed porch. The historic district's only Tudor Revival building, the Masonic Temple (#65), is an excellent example of this type that is rarely found in Vermont. It has a

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**Section 8 Page 20**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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parapeted and stepped gable, contrasting brick and concrete walls, a Tudor-arched doorway, an oriel window, quoined pilasters, and leaded-glass windows. A good example of an Art Deco building is Quinlan's Drug Store (#58), which has a stylized frieze with concrete and brick geometrical patterns.

The historic district retains intact examples of several building types normally found in Vermont villages of its size, including the town offices, two courthouses, a post office, a hotel, commercial storefront buildings, industrial buildings, commercial garages, a church, three banks, fraternal organization buildings, a fire house, a library, and residences.

The preservation of the historic district is ensured by many factors. The Town of Bennington has a Historic Preservation Commission that oversees a large Design Review District including the historic district and surrounding neighborhoods, and which has produced a detailed historic preservation handbook entitled, "Time & Place in Bennington: A Handbook for the Central Bennington Historic District." There is also a "Scenic Resource Inventory" of Bennington that acknowledges in detail the importance of historic villages, streetscapes and structures, and how they can enhance the overall scenic attributes of the town. The Better Bennington Corporation's mission is to promote and preserve downtown development, and it employs the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Program, which encourages "economic development within the context of historic preservation in ways appropriate to today's marketplace." In addition, a developer that has been acquiring many of the historic district's most significant buildings has been rehabilitating them according to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

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**Section 9 Page 1 Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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**Section 9 Page 3 Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
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Joe Parks, August 31, 2007

Jeff Magnifico, October 3, 2007

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**Section 10 Page 1      **Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont****

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**Boundary Description**

The boundary of the Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase is delineated on the sketch map accompanying the nomination form. The irregular boundary follows the perimeter property lines of the tax parcels included in the historic district. These property lines are derived from the Town of Bennington tax map #50. The Bennington tax parcels whose perimeter property line is part of the district boundary include:

Block 54: 4 and 5

Block 55: 1, 7, 34, 35, 36, 39, 39.1, 40, 42, 43, 52, 53, 58, 61, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 78

Block 56: 1, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17, 23, 24, 25, 27, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44

Block 57: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, and 12

**Boundary Justification**

The historic district boundary includes the commercial center of downtown Bennington. The boundary was chosen based on the commercial character and historic integrity of the historic district. South of the historic district, the character of the streetscape changes from commercial to residential, and there are late twentieth-century resources on both sides of the street directly south of the boundary. North of the historic district, there are late twentieth-century resources including a large paved parking lot. West of the historic district, the character of the streetscape changes from commercial to residential, and there are several late twentieth-century resources on both sides of the street directly west of the boundary. East of the historic district, the character of the streetscape changes from commercial to residential, and there are late twentieth-century resources on both sides of the street directly east of the boundary.

The historic district boundary is sufficient to convey the historic significance of the Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase.

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**Table of Properties Page 1**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

Map #	Address	Name of Property	Date	Style	Contributing or Non-Contributing
1	210 South St.	Marshall's Garage/Bijur Lubricating Corporation	1927, c. 1945, c. 1960, 2003	Colonial Revival, Industrial	C
2	209 South St.	Graves & Root Blacksmith Shop	c. 1845	Greek Revival	C
3	207 South St.	South Shire Bennington County Courthouse #5	1936	Neo-Classical Revival	C
4	205 South St.	Root, Henry and Catherine, House, Bennington Town Office	c. 1846	Greek Revival	C
5	204 South St.	Chittenden Bank Annex	1974	Modern	NC
6	203 South St.	Rogers House	c. 1915	Bungalow	C
7	201 South St.	Walker, Albert, House	c. 1847, c. 1960	Greek Revival	C
8	118 South St.	United States Post Office	1914	Neo-Classical Revival	C
9	116 South St.	Wills Insurance	1950	Colonial Revival	C
10	113 South St.	Park/Drysdale Block	c. 1865	Italianate	C
11	109 South St.	South Shire Bennington County Courthouse #4/Pennysaver Press	1870	Italianate	C
12	103-105 South St./357-349 Main St.	Putnam House	1870	Italianate	C
13	106-108 North St.	Restaurant/Store	c. 1895, c. 1990	Commercial	NC
14	110-112 North St.	Crosier's Barber Shop	c. 1935, c. 1990	Commercial	NC
15	116 North St.	J.J. Young Building	c. 1990	Commercial	NC
16	125 North St.	Oatman/Packard/Morrissey Grocery Store	c. 1855, c. 1990	Greek Revival	C
16A	125 North St.	Storage/Garage	c. 1922, 1979	n/a	NC
17	102 Pleasant St.	Spartan Engine Company No. 1/Stark Hose Company No. 1	1851, c. 1890, c. 1985	Second Empire	C
18	126 North St.	Bottum & Torrance Mill Office	c. 1902, 1987	Colonial Revival	NC
19	128-130 North St.	New York Market	c. 1880, c. 1910	Commercial	C

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**Table of Properties Page 2      Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

Map #	Address	Name of Property	Date	Style	Contributing or Non-Contributing
20	137 North St.	House/Veterans of Foreign Wars Clubhouse	c. 1850, c. 1985	Greek Revival	C
21	132 North St.	Lundergan's Restaurant/Marra's Shoe Service	c. 1890	Italianate	C
22	136-142 North St.	The Ladies Bazaar/Tailor	c. 1892	Italianate	C
23	144 North St.	Store/Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 1861	c. 1920, c. 1965	Modern	NC
24	155 North St.	Bennington Coop Savings and Loan	c. 1985, 1999	Neo-Colonial Revival	NC
25	164 North St.	Levin's Tailor Shop/King's Shoe Repair	1921	Commercial	C
26	168 North St.	Adams, Enos, House	c. 1835, c. 1880	Greek Revival	C
27	169 North St.	Brown and Gage Foundry/Putnam Grist Mill	c. 1842	Greek Revival	C
28	170 North St.	John H. Moore's Crockery House	1897	Italianate	C
29	186-188 North St.	Taylor's Garage	c. 1924	Industrial	C
30	190 North St.	Eagle Iron Works/Putnam Hardware Manufactory	c. 1845	Industrial	C
30A	190 North St.	Eagle Iron Works Office	c. 1845	Greek Revival	C
31	n/a	North Street Bridge	1936	Paneled steel girder	C
32	230 School St.	St. Francis de Sales Academy	1899	Renaissance Revival	C
33	307 Main St.	Knights of Columbus Council #307	1948	Colonial Revival	C
34	324 Main St.	Bennington Garage	1920	Industrial	C
35	332 Main St.	First National Bank of Bennington	1868	Italianate	C
36	334 Main St.	Office/Katie Cleaver Jewelry Shop	c. 1950	Commercial	C
37	335-343 Main St.	A.H. Winslow Block	c. 1894, c. 1907, c. 1923	Italianate, Commercial	C
38	338 Main St.	First National Bank of Bennington #2	1931	Neo-Classical Revival	C
39	400-418 Main St.	Harte Block	1961, 1968, 1974, 1977	Commercial	NC
40	401-405 Main St.	Post Office/Bennington County National Bank	c. 1845, 1886, c. 1955, 1960	High Victorian Gothic	C
41	n/a	Main Street Clock	1928	n/a	C

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**Table of Properties Page 3**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

Map #	Address	Name of Property	Date	Style	Contributing or Non-Contributing
42	409 Main St.	Adams Block	c. 1845, c. 1910	Italianate	C
43	411 Main St.	Charles Hawks Store	c. 1865, 1962	Vernacular Italianate	NC
44	415-417 Main St.	Carroll Drugs	1962	Modern	NC
45	421 Main St.	Four 21 Restaurant	1962	Modern	NC
46	425 Main St.	Bennington Banner/Fashion Fair	1962	Modern	NC
47	428 Main St.	Madison Brewery	1959, 1996	Post-Modern	NC
48	430 Main St.	Jewelry Store	1946	Art Deco	C
49	431 Main St.	Evans News/Rehm-Brandt Design	1962, 2000	Post-Modern	NC
50	434 Main St.	Furniture Store	1946	Art Deco	C
51	435-443 Main St.	Cone Block	1899, 1924	Art Deco	C
52	440 Main St.	Methodist Church	1833, 1858, 1906	High Victorian Gothic	C
53	445-449 Main St.	Fienberg Block	1929	Neo-Classical Revival	C
54	450 Main St.	Cook House	c. 1850, c. 1995	Greek Revival	NC
55	451 Main St.	Grand Union	1954, c. 1995	Commercial	NC
56	457 Main St.	Nichols Block	1877, 1896, 1949	Italianate	C
57	460 Main St.	Dunkin Donuts	1972	Modern	NC
58	463 Main St.	Grocery Store/Quinlan's Drug Store	c. 1875, c. 1890, c. 1948, c. 1970	Art Deco	C
59	465-479	Ritchie Block	1896	Neo-Classical Revival	C
60	475-477	E.S. Pratt Store/Shaffe's Men's Shop	c. 1850, 1992	Greek Revival	C
61	489 Main St.	Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company/Hoisington Realty	c. 1927	Commercial	C
62	493 Main St.	House	c. 1835	Greek Revival	C

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**Table of Properties Page 4**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

Map #	Address	Name of Property	Date	Style	Contributing or Non-Contributing
63	495-497	Newton Block/Adams Hardware	1884	Italianate	C
64	500 Main St.	The Vermont Bank and Trust Company	1959	American International	NC
65	504 Main St.	Masonic Temple, Mt. Anthony Lodge #13	1912	Tudor Revival	C
66	506 Main St.	House/Store	c. 1875, c. 1960	vernacular	C
67	101 Silver St.	Bennington Free Library	1865, 1936, 1988	Renaissance Revival/ Colonial Revival	C
68	507 Main St.	Lyons-Meachem-Ross House	1847	Greek Revival	C
69	508 Main St.	Surdam Building	2006	Modern	NC
70	512-516 Main St.	C.A. Wood Print Shop/ H.P. Woodman Furniture Store	c. 1899	Commercial	C
70A	512-516 Main St.	H.P. Woodman Furniture Warehouse	c. 1904	Industrial	C
71	520 Main St.	Schwartz Meat Store/Geannelis	c. 1899, c. 1971	Commercial	C
72	528 Main St.	Gibney Block	c. 1899	Commercial	C
73	530 Main St.	Firestone/Canopy Shops	c. 1946, c. 1986	Modern	NC

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**Section Photograph Labels Page 1**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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The following is the same for all photographs:

Downtown Bennington Historic District & Boundary Increase

Town of Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont

Photographs by Paula Sagerman, Fall 2007

CD with digital images on file at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

Photograph #1

Facing NW toward west side of South Street

Photograph #2

Facing SE toward north end of South Street

Photograph #3

Facing NW toward west side of North  
Street, #19 on left

Photograph #4

Facing SW toward south side of Main St.  
just west of South St.

Photograph #5

Facing NW toward north side of Main St.  
just west of North St.

Photograph #6

Facing east toward Main St. from corner of  
Main & South St.

Photograph #7

Facing west toward Main St. from east end  
of historic district

Photograph #8

Facing west toward Main Street from near  
School Street

Photograph #9

Facing NE on Main Street, #65 on left

Photograph #10

Facing NE toward Marshall's Garage (#1)

Photograph #11

Facing NW toward Graves & Root Blacksmith  
Shop (#2)

Photograph #12

Facing NW toward Bennington County  
Courthouse #5 (#3)

Photograph #13

Facing west toward Henry Root House (#4)

Photograph #14

Facing SE toward Chittenden Bank Annex (#5),  
#1 behind it

Photograph #15

Facing NE toward Rogers House (#6)

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**Section Photograph Labels Page 2**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Photograph #16  
Facing SW toward Albert Walker House  
(#7)

Photograph #25  
Facing NE toward Spartan/Stark Fire House  
(#17)

Photograph #17  
Facing SE toward United States Post Office  
(#8)

Photograph #26  
Facing west toward Bottum & Torrance Mill  
Office (#18)

Photograph #18  
Facing NE toward Wills Insurance (#9)

Photograph #27  
Facing NW toward New York Market &  
Lundergan's Restaurant (#19, 21)

Photograph #19  
Facing NW toward Park/Drysdale Block  
(#10)

Photograph #28  
Facing NW toward Ladies Bazaar and Fraternal  
Order of Eagles Clubhouse (#22, 23)

Photograph #20  
Facing west toward Bennington County  
Courthouse #4 (#11)

Photograph #29  
Facing SE toward House/Veterans of Foreign  
Wars Clubhouse (#20)

Photograph #21  
Facing west toward Putnam House (#12)

Photograph #30  
Facing NE toward Bennington Coop Savings and  
Loan (#24)

Photograph #22  
Facing west toward Restaurant, Barber Shop  
& JJ Young Building (#13, 14, 15)

Photograph #31  
Facing NW toward Levin's Tailor Shop/King's  
Shoe Repair (#25)

Photograph #23  
Facing NE toward Oatman Grocery Store  
(#16)

Photograph #32  
Facing NW toward Enos Adams House & John  
H. Moore's Crockery House (#26, 28)

Photograph #24  
Facing NW toward Storage/Garage (#16A)

Photograph #33  
Facing NE toward Brown & Gage Foundry (#27)

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**Section Photograph Labels Page 3**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Photograph #34  
Facing west toward Taylor's Garage (#29)

Photograph #35  
Facing west toward Eagle Iron  
Works/Putnam Hardware Manufactory (#30)

Photograph #36  
Facing SW toward Eagle Iron Works Office  
(#30A)

Photograph #37  
Facing NE toward North Street Bridge (#31)

Photograph #38  
Facing east toward St. Francis de Sales  
Academy (#32)

Photograph #39  
Facing SE toward Knights of Columbus  
Clubhouse (#33)

Photograph #40  
NW toward Bennington Garage (#34)

Photograph #41  
Facing NW toward First National Bank of  
Bennington & Katie Cleaver's Shop (#35,  
36)

Photograph #42  
Facing SW toward A.H. Winslow Block  
(#37)

Photograph #43  
Facing NW toward First National Bank of  
Bennington (#38)

Photograph #44  
Facing NE toward Harte Block (#39)

Photograph #45  
Facing SE toward Post Office and Main Street  
Clock (#40 and 41)

Photograph #46  
Facing south toward Hawks Store & Adams  
Block (#43, 42, 40)

Photograph #47  
Facing SW toward Four 21 Restaurant & Carroll  
Drugs (#45, 44)

Photograph #48  
Facing SW toward Evans News & Bennington  
Banner (#49, 46)

Photograph #49  
Facing NW toward Madison Brewery, Jewelry  
Store, Furniture Store (#47, 48, 50)

Photograph #50  
Facing south toward Cone Block (#51)

Photograph #51  
Facing north toward Methodist Church (#52)

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**Section Photograph Labels Page 4**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Photograph #52  
Facing south toward Fienberg Block (#53)

Photograph #53  
Facing NE toward Cook House (#54)

Photograph #54  
Facing SW toward Nichols Block & Grand  
Union (#56, 55)

Photograph #55  
Facing NW toward Dunkin Donuts (#57)

Photograph #56  
Facing SW toward Grocery Store/Quinlan's  
Drug Store (#58)

Photograph #57  
Facing SW toward Ritchie Block (#59)

Photograph #58  
Facing SE toward E.S. Pratt Store/Shaffe's  
Men's Shop (#60)

Photograph #59  
Facing south toward A&P Grocery  
Store/Hoisington Realty (#61)

Photograph #60  
Facing SE toward House (#62)

Photograph #61  
Facing SW toward Newton Block/Adams  
Hardware (#63)

Photograph #62  
Facing NE toward Vermont Bank and Trust  
Company (#64)

Photograph #63  
Facing SE toward Masonic Temple (#65)

Photograph #64  
Facing NW toward House/Store & Surdam  
Building (#66, 69)

Photograph #65  
Facing SE toward Bennington Free Library (#67)

Photograph #66  
Facing east toward Bennington Free Library  
Annex (#67)

Photograph #67  
Facing south toward Lyons-Meachem-Ross  
House (#68)

Photograph #68  
Facing NE toward C.A. Wood Print Shop &  
Schwartz Meat Store/Geannelis (#70, 71)

Photograph #69  
Facing SE toward H.P. Woodman Furniture  
Warehouse (#70A)

Photograph #70  
Facing north toward Gibney Block & Firestone  
(#72, 73)

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**Section Property Owners Page 1**

**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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|----|---|-----|--|
| 1. | Applejack Development, LLC<br>P.O. Box 1527<br>Manchester Center, VT 05255                    | 9.  | Peter Reed Donovan<br>116 South St.<br>Bennington, VT 05201                    |
| 2. | Town of Bennington<br>205 South St.<br>Bennington, VT 05201                                   | 10. | Applejack Drysdale, LLC<br>P.O. Box 1527<br>Manchester Center, VT 05255        |
| 3. | Bennington County Court House<br>P.O. Box 4157<br>Bennington, VT 05201                        | 11. | Applejack Downtown, LLC<br>P.O. Box 1527<br>Manchester Center, VT 05255        |
| 4. | Town of Bennington<br>205 South St.<br>Bennington, VT 05201                                   | 12. | Applejack Downtown, LLC<br>P.O. Box 1527<br>Manchester Center, VT 05255        |
| 5. | Swanton Company, Inc.<br>c/o Chittenden Corp. Finance<br>P.O. Box 820<br>Burlington, VT 05401 | 13. | Scott Stahler & Jill Bradley<br>P.O. Box 58<br>Jamaica, VT 05343               |
| 6. | David Buckley<br>P.O. Box 918<br>Bennington, VT 05201   | 14. | James & Janet Thibodeau<br>112 North St.<br>Bennington, VT 05201               |
| 7. | David Buckley<br>P.O. Box 918<br>Bennington, VT 05201   | 15. | David & Pamela Murphy<br>1568 Carolina Jasmine Rd.<br>Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 |
| 8. | Town of Bennington<br>205 South St.<br>Bennington, VT 05201                                   | 16. | Clip Shop<br>P.O. Box 697<br>Williamstown, MA 01267                            |

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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| 17. | Housing Vermont<br>123 St. Paul Street<br>Burlington, VT 05401                       | 25. | Anthony & Rosa Napolitano<br>164 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201           |
| 18. | Donald Miller<br>46 Bank Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                              | 26. | Alexander Tenentes<br>168 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                  |
| 19. | Sonatina School of Piano, Inc.<br>128 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201           | 27. | State Pine Investment Corp.<br>155 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201         |
| 20. | Veterans of Foreign Wars<br>137 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                 | 28. | Bruce & Wendy Faller<br>170 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                |
| 21. | Richard & Dora Torrey<br>132 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                    | 29. | Applejack R.E. Partners, L.L.C.<br>P.O. Box 1527<br>Manchester Center, VT 05255 |
| 22. | Patchin Place Housing, L.P.<br>c/o R.A.H.C.<br>P.O. Box 1247<br>Bennington, VT 05201 | 30. | Applejack R.E. Partners, L.L.C.<br>P.O. Box 1527<br>Manchester Center, VT 05255 |
| 23. | Fraternal Order of Eagles<br>144 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                | 31. | Town of Bennington<br>205 South Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                  |
| 24. | Bank of Bennington<br>155 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                       | 32. | Applejack R.E. Partners, L.L.C.<br>P.O. Box 1527<br>Manchester Center, VT 05255 |

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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|---|---|
| 33. Knights of Columbus<br>P.O. Box 33<br>Bennington, VT 05201  | 41. Swanton Company, Inc.<br>c/o Chittenden Corp. Finance<br>P.O. Box 820<br>Burlington, VT 05401 |
| 34. Community College of Vermont<br>c/o State of Vermont<br>2 Governor Aiken Avenue<br>Montpelier, VT 05633 | 42. Patrick Winburn<br>409 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                                    |
| 35. Claudia Dole<br>P.O. Box 463<br>Dorset, VT 05251  | 43. Carlo & Rosa Maresca<br>41-43 171 Street<br>Flushing, NY 11358                                |
| 36. Katie Cleaver & Peter Crabtree<br>980 Park Street<br>North Bennington, VT 05257                         | 44. John Felopulos, Trustee<br>99 Chauncy Street, Suite 717<br>Boston, MA 02111                   |
| 37. Norman H. Greenberg<br>321 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201  | 45. Roma Restaurant, Inc.<br>P.O. Box 1506<br>Bennington, VT 05201                                |
| 38. Maria Corrales<br>213 Washington Avenue<br>Bennington, VT 05201   | 46. New England Newspapers<br>Bennington Banner<br>425 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201        |
| 39. Margaret Harte<br>3E Highpoint Road<br>Stuart, FL 34996   | 47. Michael Madison<br>428 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                                    |
| 40. Swanton Company, Inc.<br>c/o Chittenden Corp. Finance<br>P.O. Box 820<br>Burlington, VT 05401           | 48. Athamasios Papaioannou<br>430 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                             |

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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| 49. | Mary Muckle<br>431 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                       | 57. | Lee Pomat<br>663 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                          |
| 50. | George Krawczyk<br>311 Rice Lane<br>Bennington, VT 05201                     | 58. | Robert R. Moulton, Jr.<br>463 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201             |
| 51. | Cone Realty Corp.<br>439 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                 | 59. | Nancy & Kristopher Woltman<br>530 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201         |
| 52. | Methodist Church<br>440 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                  | 60. | David Shaffe<br>475 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                       |
| 53. | Audrey Lachant Living Trust<br>300 Jefferson Heights<br>Bennington, VT 05201 | 61. | Kathleen Hoisington<br>489 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                |
| 54. | Peter & Paula Cross<br>638 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201               | 62. | Eileen Zazzaro<br>P.O. Box 245<br>Shaftsbury, VT 05262                        |
| 55. | Bernard & Angela Husser<br>103 Pleasant Valley Road<br>Bennington, VT 05201  | 63. | Arthur & Claire Haytko Life Estate<br>497 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201 |
| 56. | George Krawczyk<br>1198 Harwood Hill Road<br>Bennington, VT 05201            | 64. | Bank North<br>c/o CBRE/Boulos<br>1 Canal Plaza<br>Portland, ME 04101          |

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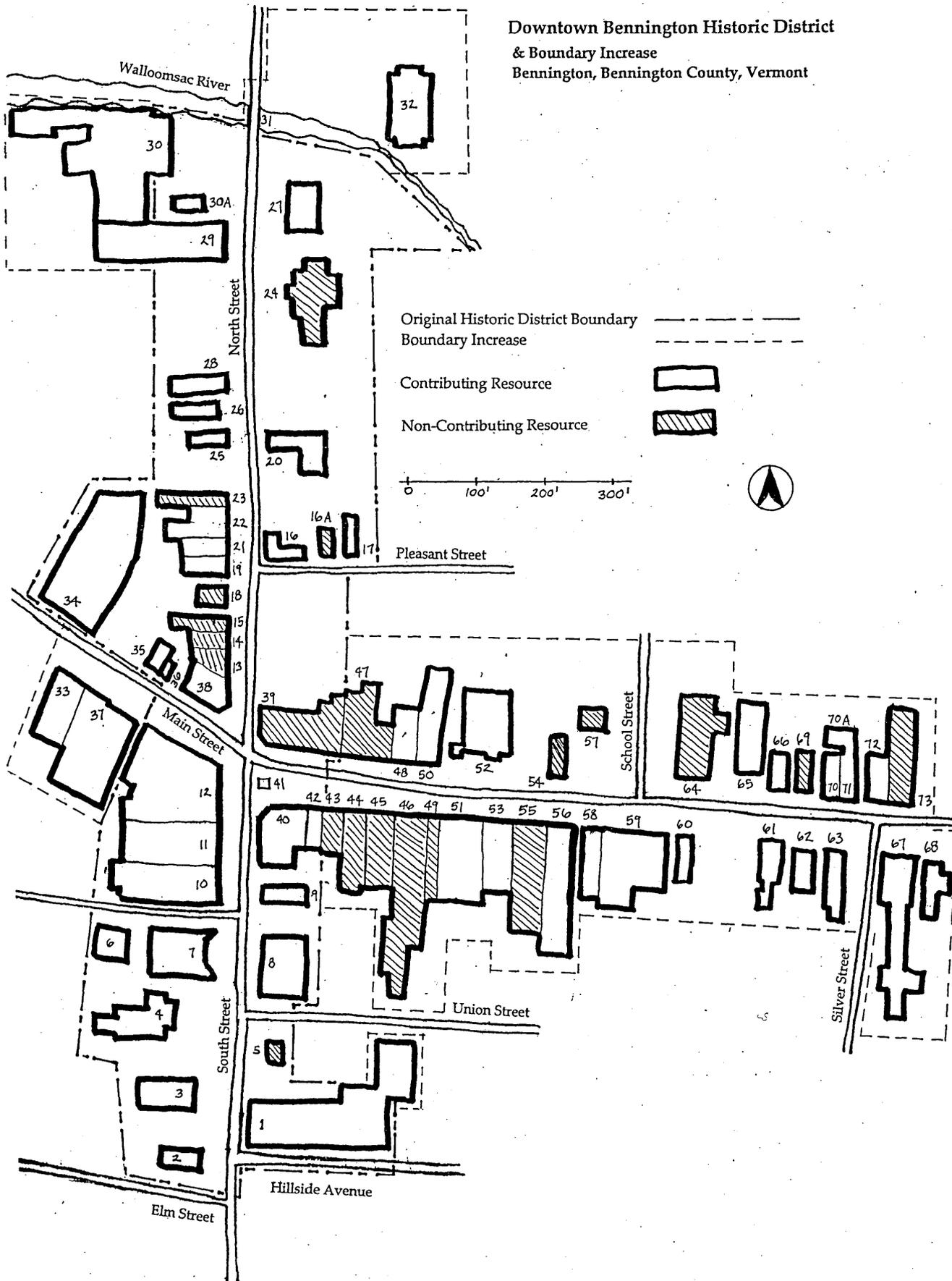
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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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| 65. | Masonic Lodge<br>c/o Bruce Faller<br>170 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201 | 73. | Nancy & Kristopher Woltman<br>530 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201 |
| 66. | Masonic Lodge<br>c/o Bruce Faller<br>170 North Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201 |     |   |
| 67. | Bennington Free Library<br>101 Silver Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201          |     |   |
| 68. | Sternberg & Ross Realty<br>507 Main Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201            |     |   |
| 69. | Milton E. Surdam, Jr., Trustee<br>1084 Houghton Lane<br>Bennington, VT 05201  |     |   |
| 70. | David & Kim Post<br>217 Silver Street<br>Bennington, VT 05201                 |     |   |
| 71. | Power of Four Limited<br>P.O. Box 158<br>North Bennington, VT 05257           |     |   |
| 72. | Jens & Loretta Wagner<br>P.O. Box 89<br>Arroyo Grande, CA 93421               |     |   |

**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Facing northwest toward Walker House (#7), Park/Drysdale Block (#10), and Courthouse (#11)  
c. 1910

Photo courtesy of Images from the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing southwest toward Park/Drysdale Block (#10)  
c. 1910  
Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing west toward Putnam House (#12)  
c. 1920

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Facing north toward south end of North Street  
Note the bank on the corner and the brick blocks on North Street  
c. 1920  
Photo courtesy of epodunk.com

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
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Facing northeast toward Bennington Banner office building, which stood on the east side of North Street between Main Street and Pleasant Street  
c. 1890

Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Facing east toward St. Francis de Sales Academy (#32)  
c. 1920  
Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
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Facing east toward Main Street from Four Corners  
c. 1900  
Opera House Block is on left  
Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
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Facing east on Main Street from Four Corners  
c. 1936

Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing north toward buildings that once stood on the north side of Main Street in location of #39 and 47

c. 1890

Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Facing southeast toward south side of Main Street

Charles Hawks Store is on the right (#43)

c. 1890

Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing east toward Main Street

c. 1900

Tiered steeple is Methodist Church (#52)

Building with pointed steeple is Congregational Church (now location of #64)

Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
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Facing northeast toward north side of Main Street  
Nichols Block is on the left (#56)  
c. 1890  
Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing northwest on Main Street  
Pratt Store/Shaffe's Men's Shop is on the left (#60)  
c. 1896  
Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

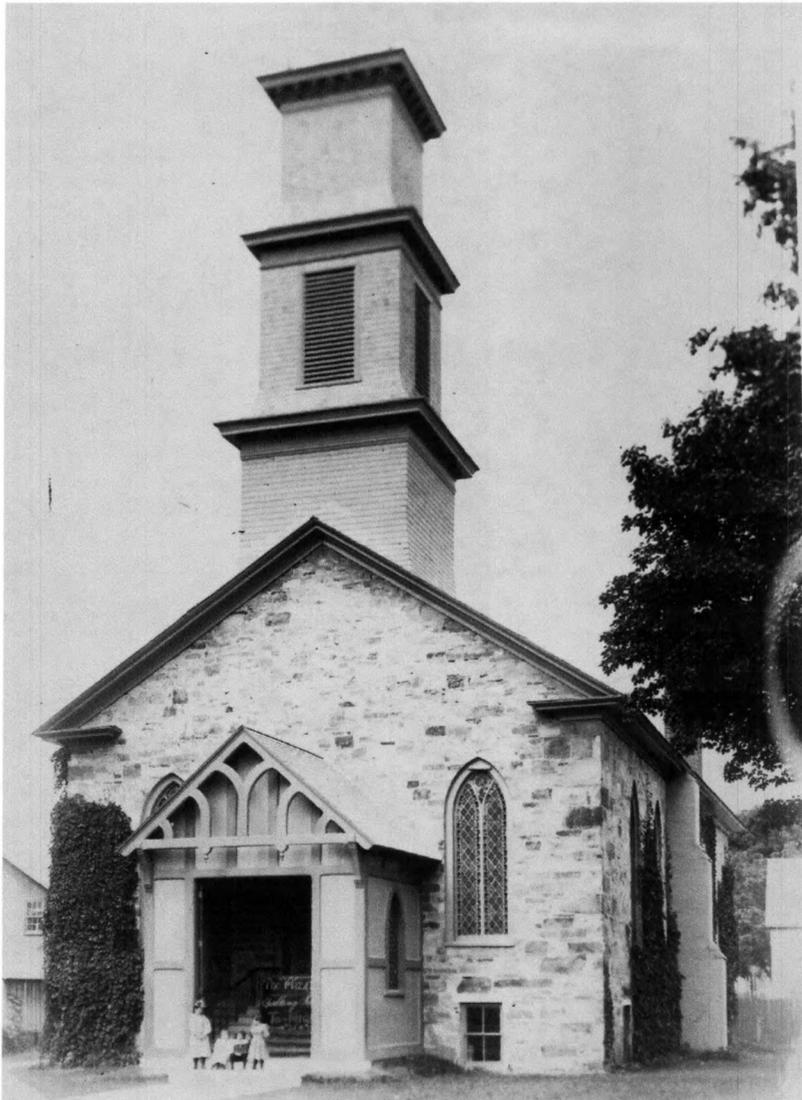
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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
& Boundary Increase  
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Facing north toward Methodist Church  
c. 1900  
Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing northwest toward Y.M.C.A., which stood at the northwest corner of Main Street and School Street (now location of #57)

c. 1910

Photo courtesy of Images From the Past

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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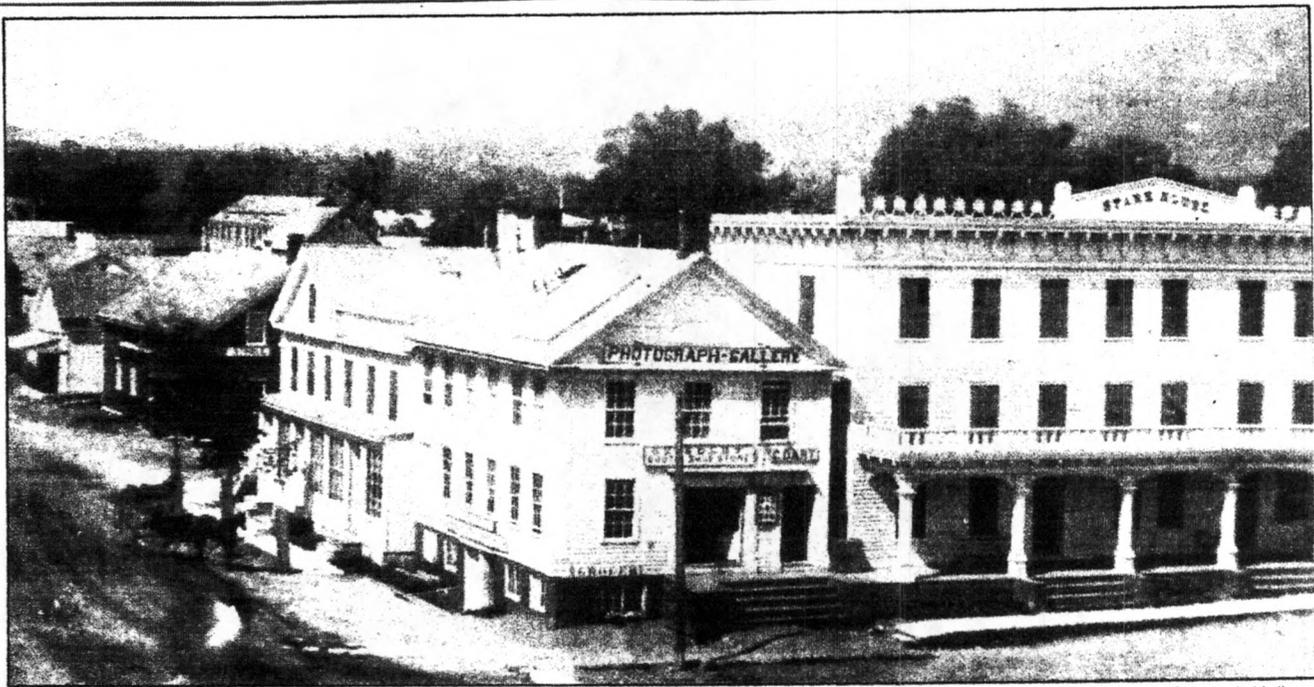


Photo courtesy of Joseph Hall

Facing northeast toward northeast corner of Main Street and North Street  
c. 1880

Photo from *Bennington Banner's 100 Years In Pictures, Bennington, VT, 2004*

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing south toward Harte Theatre  
Located at 481 Main Street until it burned down in 1992  
Photo from *The Rock Ribs of Bennington Town*, 1977.

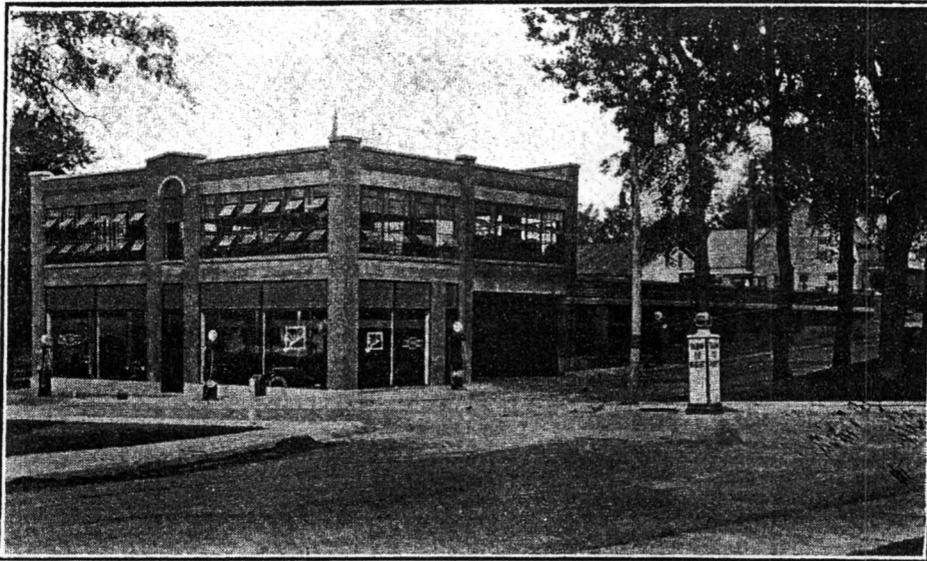
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Facing northeast toward Marshall's Garage (#1)  
Photo from the Bennington City Directory, 1927

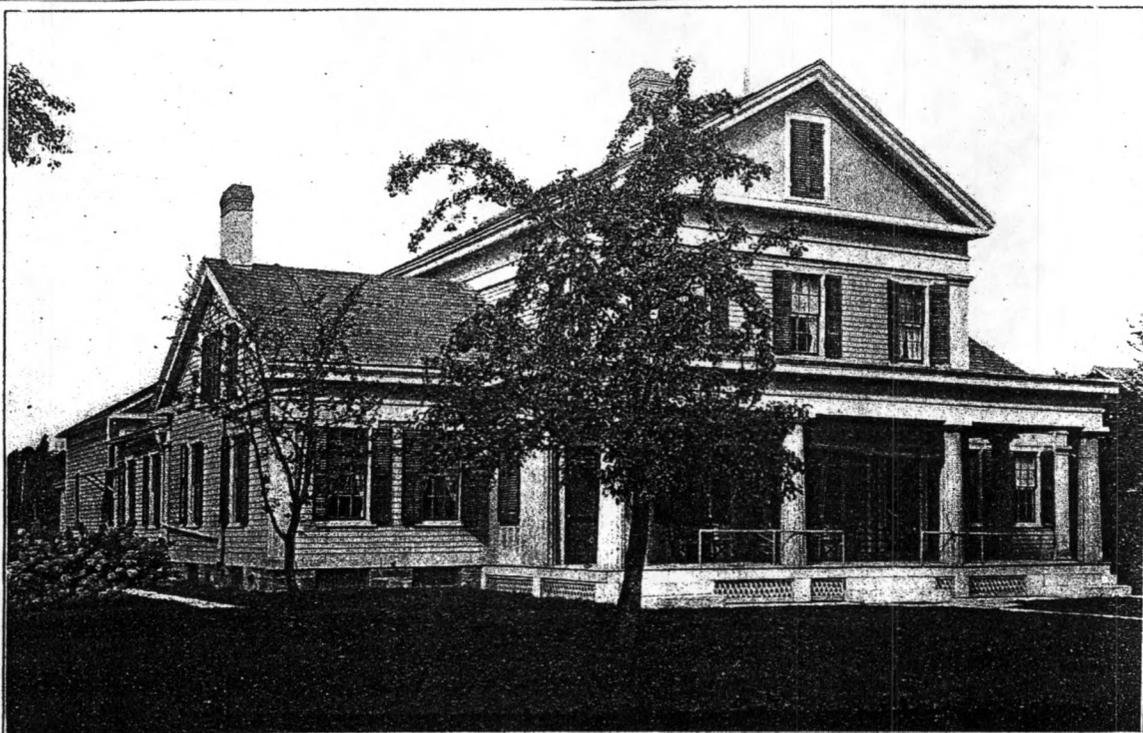
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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing northwest toward the Henry Root House (#4)  
Photo from *Bennington Souvenir*, 1904

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Facing southeast toward the Adams Block. The right half of this block is now part of #41, and the left half has been added on to in the front (#42).

Photo from *Bennington Souvenir*, 1904

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**Downtown Bennington Historic District  
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Bennington, Bennington County, Vermont**

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Facing south toward W.E. Hawks Block, which experienced a fire and was rebuilt as the Cone Block (#51)

Photo from *Bennington Souvenir*, 1904